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Compulsory deposit plan as curb on gazumping

By Christopher Warman, Property Correspondent

A call for a mandatory deposit system backed by legislation, to curb gazumping is to be put to the Government by Mr John Heddle, MP, vice-president of the Building Societies Association.

He is also keen to see a more direct move towards the Scottish system in which the acceptance of an offer becomes a binding contract.

Mr Heddle, a chartered surveyor and chairman of the Conservatives' parliamentary environment committee, described as a "paper tiger" the report of the Law Commission's conveyancing standing committee on gazumping published on Wednesday. "I do not think it is going to work because it is a voluntary scheme."

The report recommended a voluntary pre-contract deposit of 10 per cent to be paid by vendor and purchaser once a sale is agreed, and that if either party withdraws without good reason both deposits would go to the injured party.

Mr Heddle said that a purchaser might be persuaded to pay the deposit but the vendor would be unlikely to do so. He tried to raise the matter in the Commons on Thursday, asking the Leader of the House for a debate, but Mr John Biffen said he could not guarantee government time.

Mr Heddle, who is likely to try to raise the matter through an adjournment debate, wants the pre-contract deposit to be

mandatory and non-returnable. He also believes that to reduce the uncertainty and time taken during the conveyancing process the vendor should be obliged to produce local searches to the prospective purchaser.

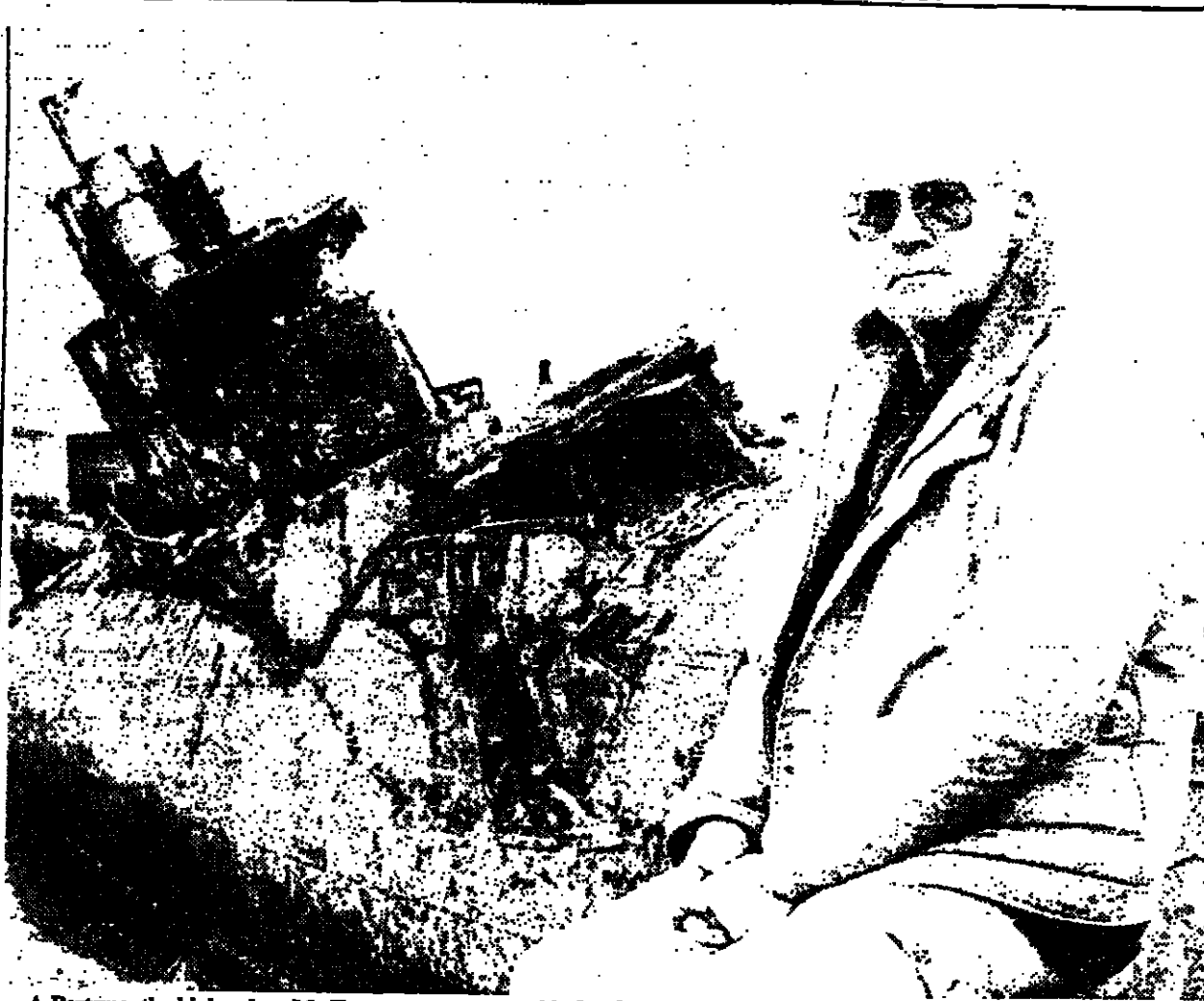
In addition, he wants the vendor to supply an independent valuation, approved by building societies and banks, so that once a sale is agreed the matter can proceed quickly.

His proposals put the onus on the vendor to take steps to reduce the time before contracts are exchanged. He admits it would not solve the problems of the chain, and is looking to the institutions to play a part in that respect.

Mr Heddle is writing to the Prime Minister and hopes the Government would put a scheme along those lines into its election manifesto.

The National Association of Estate Agents has rejected "regretfully" the Law Commission's recommendation, and the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors said yesterday that it supported it in principle, but feared it might not work in practice.

Mr David Robinson, chairman of the institution's estate agency committee, feared that it would be very difficult, for example, to achieve the recommended timescale of four weeks before exchanging contracts, unless neither party had another house to buy and sell, and impossible if that was the case.



A Portsmouth shipbreaker, Mr Tony Pounds, with the shell of The Crocodile, the only American submarine dating from the First World War, which is to be broken up and sold for scrap within the next two weeks.

The Crocodile, a Class P556 submarine, has lain at her present site in Portsmouth for the past 40 years. After being cut into sections she will be loaded

on to a vessel in Southampton and taken to Spain where scrap metal fetches the highest prices in Europe.

Mr Pounds said yesterday: "She's in such hopeless condition that she can't be saved and the price is right for selling her off anyway. She's the only American submarine from that era you'll ever see. There are some left on the planet, but they're all at the bottom of the ocean."

The Pounds' family have been shipbreakers for 104 years and their 27-acre site near Portsmouth harbour is filled with historic maritime remains in various stages of dilapidation. They once bought 14 Russian trawlers and shipped them to Portsmouth, starting a spy scandal (Photograph: Mark Pepper).

Aviation chief calls for new SE runway

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

Action to increase runway space in the south of England was demanded yesterday by Mr Christopher Tugendhat, head of the Civil Aviation Authority.

He told a meeting in London of business aircraft users: "This country has failed over the last two decades to develop its south-east airport network to meet all future traffic demands."

He added his voice to the growing demand for political decisions which will lead either to a new airport being built in the South-east or for an additional runway to be laid down at Heathrow, Gatwick or Stansted.

The Government has been warned for years that more capacity will be needed before the end of the century. With the inevitable long process of choosing a site, holding a public inquiry, appeals and protests which any kind of development would bring little action has been taken.

Mr Tugendhat said: "It is difficult to see how long-term solutions to meet the needs of all our aviation community can be achieved without building a new runway somewhere in the South-east unless new and radical ideas can be conceived and implemented."

Memorial in music for birth of Rubinstein

By Gavin Bell, Arts Correspondent

The Festival Hall is to be transformed for a day into a memorial in music, words and pictures of Arthur Rubinstein, the Polish-born pianist.

The highlight of celebrations marking the centenary of his birth on January 25 will be the British premiere of the *Polish Requiem* by Krzysztof Penderecki, in the presence of the Princess of Wales.

Penderecki, Poland's foremost contemporary composer, will conduct the BBC Symphony Orchestra, chorus and singers for the concert, to be broadcast live by BBC Radio 3.

The event recalls an evening early in the pianist's career, when at the age of seven, he played pieces by Mozart, Schubert and Mendelssohn at a charity concert.

Rubinstein, one of the finest interpreters of Chopin's music, died in Geneva in 1982, aged 95.

The Festival Hall audience will be given a rare opportunity to watch rehearsals on the morning of the concert. Tickets, ranging from £3 to £15, will also cover an afternoon piano recital, a production of documentary films about Rubinstein, and a pre-concert discussion with Penderecki.

Warsaw's blow to press talks

By Jonathan Miller, Media Correspondent

The censors appeared to have struck the first blows yesterday as an international conference on press freedom got under way in London.

Organizers said that a Polish journalist due to address the conference today has sent a message saying he cannot attend.

In a tape recording, Mr Stefan Brankowski, an organizer of the now-dissolved Solidarity journalists' union, said he was under investigation by Warsaw authorities and had to remain in Poland.

At the same time, Mr Aldo Zuccollo, publisher of *ABC Color*, the Paraguayan newspaper closed three years ago by authorities, reported that the main opposition radio station in his country had closed on Thursday.

The station, Radio Nanduti, had been unable to continue broadcasting because the government had launched a jamming campaign to stop listeners from receiving its signal, he said.

The conference aims at developing concrete proposals for challenging censorship, according to the chairman, Mr Harold Andersen, publisher of the *World-Herald* newspaper in Omaha, Nebraska.

These may include a decision to participate in litigation against the South African government, challenging reporting restrictions, and the creation of a new mechanism to co-ordinate efforts to put pressure on oppressive governments, he said.

Focus on reviving old towns

By John Young

A two-day conference on reviving old towns began in Torquay yesterday. It is organized by Acanthus, a recently formed association of architects interested in conservation.

The speakers include Mr Charles Knevin, Architecture Correspondent of *The Times* and director of the Prince of Wales' Inner City Aid; Mr Ken Powell, of Save Britain's Heritage; and representatives of the Victorian Society and English Heritage.

The choice of Torquay was prompted by the present battle between Torbay District Council and residents opposing plans to demolish Victorian buildings in the old town to make way for a shopping centre.

A redevelopment scheme put forward by the building company, John Laing, was withdrawn last July as financially no viable. The Save Torquay Old Town campaign commissioned an alternative plan which would have retained Victorian shops, warehouses and a public house.

But although the plan was supported by two development companies, the council remained adamant that it wanted comprehensive redevelopment. The council is expected to make a final decision between four schemes, all involving total demolition, next Tuesday.

Campaign supporters are hoping for a last-minute intervention by Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for the Environment, who can decide to call a public inquiry.

Leaping punt-bombers spoil the idyllic Cam

By Alan Hamilton

It is becoming impossible to lie, flower-laid in sleepy grass, on the banks of the Cam to hear the cool lapse of hours pass.

Cambridge City Council is considering what to do about certain of their citizens—these Rupert Brooke identified as being urban, smart and packed with guile—who are seriously breaching the peace of the Backs, that reach of the Cam which meanders serenely through the city beneath ancient college walls.

A report before the council speaks of hoodlums who persistently ruin the image of the Backs "as a place where blazered and boistered gentlemen punt demure ladies in peace and tranquillity between meadows, lawns and under ancient bridges". They are, the report says, spoiling the tourist trade and disturbing the colleges, particularly at examination time.

Visitors nowadays are more likely to be greeted by drunken youths throwing things at punts, or by the practice, which became fashionable during a hot spell last summer, of "bombing" passing punts by jumping off bridges at them.

The council will this month consider a proposal that it

appoints a part-time warden to patrol the river during the summer months, when the bad behaviour is at its height.

According to the council report, most of the incidents occur on the stretch of the Cam between Sheep's Green and Jesus Lock, where the river runs behind the colleges in the city centre. Another problem is the excessive number of boats for hire, many of them being peddled by undergraduates in search of supplements to their student grants.

Mr Geoffrey Skeasey, of the vice-chancellor's office at Cambridge University, said yesterday: "The river is obviously one of the main amenities in Cambridge for students, residents and visitors. The university very much hopes it can continue to be enjoyed without the recurrence of problems which have unfortunately arisen in recent years. We therefore welcome the introduction of a warden."

Chief Supt Harry Goldsborne, head of Cambridge police, has also welcomed the suggestion. Because so much of the river bank is privately owned, police powers in dealing with punt-bombers, river hogs and other aquatic nuisances is seriously limited.

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WORLD SUMMARY

India confused by mock hijackers

India's elite anti-terrorist unit chartered and hijacked its own plane yesterday, posing as Sikh militants and throwing airports and security services into confusion (Nicholas Beeston writes). In an unusual display of security tactics, the Civil Aviation Ministry chartered a Boeing 737 from Delhi with 91 government officials posing as passengers on board. The plane was scheduled to fly to Udaipur, but once airborne it was seized by the heavily-armed "hijackers" and forced to land at Aurangabad, 144 miles north of Bombay. Security services were put on alert and dozens of commandos arrived at the airport for a possible assault on the aircraft. Most India Airlines employees, security officials and the country's two main news agencies were convinced that the hijacking was genuine and for five hours the top anti-terrorists were India's most wanted men.

The Government's chief spokesman said the exercise was designed to test security, and pronounced it "satisfactory". But it is still not clear what lessons officials hoped to learn.

Uproar over editor

Washington - The sudden appointment of a new editor has thrown the normally staid *New Yorker* into turmoil, and more than 160 staff and contributors have written to Mr Robert Gottlieb asking him to turn down his appointment (Michael Binyon writes).

"There was a powerful and apparently unanimous expression of sadness and outrage over the manner in which a new editor has been imposed on us - and opposition to that appointment," they said.

Mr Gottlieb, the distinguished president and editor-in-chief of the Alfred Knopf publishing house, was named on Monday by the Newhouse family, the magazine's owner, to succeed Mr William Shawn, editor for the past 35 years.

Mr Gottlieb has refused to withdraw. Mr Shawn told the staff he had an understanding that Mr Charles McGrath, the magazine's fiction editor, would succeed him.

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EEC picks US cereals for tariff increases in trade war talks tactic

From Our Own Correspondent, Brussels

The EEC yesterday identified the American products against which Europe will raise tariffs if a transatlantic trade war erupts at the end of the month.

Officials said that the Twelve would impose extra tariffs of up to \$61 (£41) a tonne on American corn, gluten feed and rice if Washington carried out its threat to impose extra duties on British gin, French cognac and other EEC food exports.

The US is demanding compensation for lost grain sales to Spain as a consequence of EEC enlargement.

Mr Willy de Clercq, the External Relations Commissioner, said that the decision to complete the regulatory list would strengthen his hand when he confronts US officials for last-ditch talks in Washington next week.

The only hint of compromise comes from Mr Clayton Yeutter, the US trade representative, who has said that the US might accept an increase in industrial exports to the EEC as part of the compensation arrangements. EEC foreign ministers will meet on January 26 to try to avoid the trade war.

The decision to retaliate against animal feed and rice was approved yesterday by EEC budget ministers, meeting in Brussels to try to resolve differences with the European Parliament over spending levels in 1987.

For now, the EEC is operating on an emergency budget based on 1986 expenditure. Britain, France and West Germany do not want to concede further budgetary power to the European Parliament, which holds its first 1987 session next week in Strasbourg.

EEC officials also held exploratory talks in Brussels yesterday with Soviet representatives on the possible establishment of diplomatic ties. The Russians do not recognize the EEC as an entity, but have increasingly acknowledged that they will have to deal with the Twelve as a whole as well as with individual EEC states.

Moscow initiated direct talks between the Soviet trading bloc Comecon and the EEC after Mr Gorbachev's rise to power, and the first joint talks took place in Geneva last September.

The talks yesterday followed an exchange of letters between Mr de Clercq and Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, the Soviet Foreign Minister.

Man in the News

Rapid rise and fall of Hu

From Robert Grievs, Peking

Mr Hu Yaobang, whose resignation as General Secretary of the Chinese Communist Party was announced yesterday, enjoyed a meteoric rise during the past decade to become one of the most powerful men in China.

The son of a poor peasant family from Hunan (Mao Tse-tung's home province), Mr Hu joined the Communist Party in 1929 at the age of 14. He took part in the Long March, and served as a political officer during the Sino-Japanese War.

After the war and liberation in 1949, he became a member of the National People's Congress, China's Parliament, and of the party's Central Committee, until he was purged in

April 1967, during the Cultural Revolution.

Like Mr Deng Xiaoping, China's senior leader, Mr Hu was victimized by Red Guards for being a "big capitalist roadster". He was sent first to a farm, then placed under house arrest before re-emerging in 1972. He attained his first official posting, as a leading member of the Academy of Social Sciences, in 1975.

Mr Hu and Mr Deng again fell from official grace for a short period in 1976, when they became targets for the Gang of Four, led by Mao's widow, Mrs Jiang Qing.

In 1977 Mr Hu was elected to the party's Central Committee, and then began a rapid

rise through the party ranks, holding titles that involved, among others, party discipline and propaganda.

But he never enjoyed the great influence wielded by Mr Zhao Ziyang, the Premier, who has succeeded him in the post of party General Secretary, or by Mr Deng. Mr Hu seemed to remain an outsider.

His most prominent aide was Mr Hu Qili, who would have succeeded him as General Secretary had Mr Hu eventually replaced Mr Deng. Associates consider him tolerant and intellectual and a champion of human rights causes. He was also known to love telling stories and jokes, though his over-enthusiasm sometimes led to social gaffes.

About 50 youths went on the rampage, damaging traffic lights, telephone booths, rub-

bish bins and attacking a sandwich bar.

The rowdy elements erupted as a delegation of the schoolchildren were meeting senior officials in an attempt to convince Señor José Mariavall, the Education Minister, to go back on recent reforms which have tightened university entrance requirements and increased university fees.

The protest movement, modelled on a similar one in France, was resuming after the Christmas and New Year break.

A good arms control treaty is probably now the only thing that can save the Reagan presidency from the Iran arms scandal. This sentiment is increasingly voiced here by Democrats and Republicans alike, who are watching with sadness and bewilderment the way in which the scandal continues to overshadow everything else.

But, they ask, has a distracted President now the credibility and political will to impose on his Republican supporters and his own divided Cabinet the concessions needed?

Political advisers and aides are urging him to grasp the opportunity of the reconvened Geneva arms talks. They point out that an arms agreement would seize the imagination of the country, which is sickened and worried by the Iran affair. It would restore the President's standing, give him his first and only substantive arms agreement, and help him to recapture the foreign policy initiative from an increasingly assertive Democrat-controlled Congress. Iran would be relegated to the inside pages.

Advisers also point to Soviet concessions made, even since Reykjavik, to the economic difficulties and recent political upheavals of the Soviet Union and to Mr Gorbachev's repeated calls for agreement. Moreover, the economic and political realities at home make a swift deal important before the President's position weakens.

The US economy is in a precarious state and may soon worsen: the huge budget deficit and hardening congressional opposition to a continued defence build-up may soon force cuts, especially on the Strategic Defence Initiative; and impatient Democratic liberals in Congress are

posed in response to the imprisonment of leading Soviet dissidents, including Mr Aleksandr Ginzburg and Mr Anatoly Shcharansky, who has since been allowed to emigrate to Israel, and other human rights violations.

Mr Baldrige said the US step had been taken "despite our dissatisfaction with Soviet human rights efforts". He noted that the number of Soviet Jews permitted to emigrate declined last year, and called 1986 one of the "worst years ever" in terms of Soviet emigration. The Administration, he said, would continue to press for human rights progress.

Jewish groups, however, expressed disappointment with the move.

The embargo caused some anger among European industries that depended on US oil-drilling components.

Moscow has sharply criticized all trade embargoes. In Reykjavik, Mr Gorbachev, the Soviet leader, is said to have poured scorn on President Reagan's offer to share Star Wars technology with the Soviet Union, saying that if the US would not export oil drilling and agricultural technology, it was not likely to share advanced military research.



A Spanish riot policeman dealing roughly with a female punk detained during yesterday's disturbances in Madrid.

Spanish punks run riot

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

A Madrid secondary schoolchildren's protest outside the Education Ministry degenerated yesterday into rioting of the police by Spanish punks and young rowdies.

As stones, sticks, and litre-size beer bottles were hurled at the police, the teenage schoolchildren sought to put themselves between the punks and the police, chanting "we are students, not criminals".

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bish bins and attacking a sandwich bar.

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Kabul offer tempts refugees to go home

From Hassan Akhtar, Islamabad

A large number of Afghan refugees in Pakistan crossed into Afghanistan on Thursday through the Tor Khama border checkpoint, in response to Kabul's appeal for them to return home to join the move for a national reconciliation and end more than six years of civil war, the Pakistani press reported yesterday.

According to published eyewitness accounts, the first large group of refugees returned to Afghanistan with a delegation of the pro-Moscow Awami National Party of Pakistan led by Begum Abdul Wali Khan, wife of Mr Abdul Wali Khan, the Awami National Party leader.

According to press reports here, the leaders of seven principal Afghan resistance groups have decided to reject the offer made by Dr Najib, leader of the Afghanistan Communist Party, of a six-month ceasefire.

The offer included the establishment of a government of national reconciliation and unity in coalition with all Afghan political groups, including those who had led armed resistance.

But correspondents based in Peshawar have reported that many Afghan refugees, who live in harsh conditions, appear eager to accept Kabul's offer and return to their homes in Afghanistan.

They also reported that the prospect of the Afghan refugees returning in large numbers had upset the Mujahidin leaders, who had begun a fresh campaign with the help of preachers to dissuade the refugees from going back to Afghanistan at this stage.

Meanwhile, a spokesman for the seven Afghan Mujahidin groups, denied reports of differences among the groups' leaders about their response to Kabul's ceasefire and amnesty offer.

Over the past six years, several hundred camps for Afghan refugees have sprung up in Pakistan. About 2.5 million Afghans live in them.

Expensive bubbles



This painting by François Boucher, the 18th-century artist, *Boy with Girl Blowing Bubbles*, sold for a record \$1,925,000 (£1,275,834) in New York on Thursday. Sale Room, page 22.

Inspector is killed

Mr Carl-Fredrik Algenon, aged 61, Sweden's Military Ordnance Inspector, fell to his death under a Stockholm underground train. He was compiling a report on disputed claims by Swedish peace groups that AB Bofors, the country's biggest arms maker, had illegally shipped armaments worth \$7 million to the Middle East.

Chernobyl keys sealed

Moscow (AP) - Keys needed to bypass safety systems at Chernobyl are now in sealed blocks to prevent human error from causing another accident there, an official of the International Atomic Energy Agency said yesterday.

Mr Morris Rosen, head of the Vienna-based agency's Division of Atomic Safety, was speaking after he and the agency's Director-General, Herr Hans Blix, visited the Ukrainian nuclear power plant which exploded on April 26.

Hong Kong leader has eye on Peking

By Nicholas Beeston

Hong Kong's newly-appointed Governor, Sir David Wilson, said yesterday that he was monitoring developments in China closely, but emphasized that he had every confidence that Peking would live up to its commitments when the territory changes hands in 1997.

Speaking in London after the official announcement of his appointment, Sir David said he could not comment about the stepping down of Mr Hu Yaobang, General Secretary of the Chinese Communist Party.

"We have to expect change in political leadership; we don't expect our own societies to have constancy of political leadership," he said. He had "great confidence" that China was committed to the terms of the joint declaration between London and Peking which map out the colony's future.

Sir David was instrumental in drawing up the document in 1984.

In it, Peking has pledged not to interfere with the colony's capitalist system for 50 years after the changeover of sovereignty.

The new Governor, who will be 52 when he assumes his post in early April, said he would spend most of this year familiarizing himself with his administrative duties. But he did not rule out the possibility of a visit to Peking before 1988.

He did not know how long

he would remain at his post, which he said he accepted with "no hesitation" when it was offered to him two weeks ago. When he assumed office as Hong Kong's 27th Governor, replacing Sir Edward Youde, who died in December, Sir David will leave his post on the British Liaison Group. The group meets three times a year.



Dr David Wilson, a Mandarin scholar and career diplomat, who has been named Governor of Hong Kong and knighted. He succeeds the late Sir Edward Youde.

with its Chinese counterpart on the future of Hong Kong.

His replacement on the group has not yet been announced.

The Governor, who speaks fluent Mandarin and intends to learn Cantonese, joined the Foreign Office in 1958 and has served all his foreign postings in Asia.

Ban on oil technology sale to Russia lifted

From Michael Binyon, Washington

The Reagan Administration has lifted an embargo on oil and gas drilling equipment sales to the Soviet Union, imposed in 1978 in order to force a change in Soviet human rights policy.

Officials emphasized that the Administration did not see any improvement in the Soviet record. But Mr Malcolm Baldrige, the US Commerce Secretary, said the controls had "lost their impact," and noted that the Russians were able to get the same equipment and technology from other countries.

The US oil industry, which had been pressing for an end to the embargo imposed by President Carter, applauded the action. Industry officials said they had lost \$2 billion (£1.3 billion) in exports because of the ban. Mr Baldrige admitted that the ban's debilitating effect had been "significant," as the Soviet Union, the world's largest oil producer, is also the largest market for drilling equipment outside the US.

It has the world's largest crude oil reserves. With increased recent Soviet drilling in the Arctic Ocean, the market could total almost \$3 billion in potential sales, industry officials said. The restrictions were im-

UK choice gets warm welcome

From David Bonavia, Hong Kong

Public figures in Hong Kong have been quick to welcome the appointment of Sir David Wilson as Governor, though some people in important positions are concerned at his relative lack of administrative experience, while his comparatively young age, 51, is also seen by some as cause for misgivings.

Most important, however, was the reaction of the New China News Agency's Hong Kong branch, headed by Mr Xu Jiajun, who is regarded as a kind of informal commissioner for China here. An official statement from the agency said that Sir David was the right man for the job.

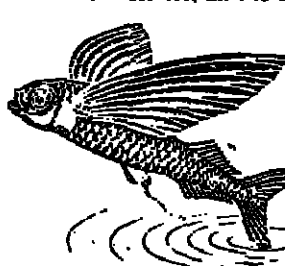
He has evidently won the respect of the Chinese Government in his role as chief British delegate to the Joint Liaison Group, which has been meeting for two years to hammer out details of the Territory's reversion to Chinese sovereignty.

The process has gone smoothly of late, but major problems underlie a forthcoming joint review of progress, including the founding of new political institutions for Hong Kong.

Peking is known to have been annoyed by the British authorities for starting political reforms based on elections to the legislature over which Sir David's rule presides.

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Five years after the war, danger still lurks in the Falklands

Not all fun and games in bomb disposal unit's Boobytrap Bar

From Peter Davenport, Defence Correspondent, Pt Stanley

It is known formally as the Redwing Club, a modest little establishment of battered chairs and chipped tables housed in a converted container at an army camp on the eastern outskirts of Port Stanley.

More commonly it is called the Boobytrap Bar, where a quiet drink for the unwary can cost more than expected.

It is the club of the bomb disposal teams which, five years after the Argentine invasion of the Falklands, are still on call 24 hours a day to

deal with the deadly legacy of their presence.

Things are definitely not what they appear to be. The Boobytrap Bar, a dozen constantly-changing traps ring buzzers, bells and trigger-flashing lights if tripped, and those caught out have to meet the cost of a crate of beer.

Captain Colin King, the officer in charge of the 12-man team currently on duty in the Falklands, admits it tends to keep the profits of the bar in the profits of the bar. But it all has a serious purpose, too. It keeps his men constantly alert to the dangers of boobytraps that are still turning up on the islands.

Among the boobytraps when I was invited into the bar were a trick cost book, a Christmas card that sounded an alarm when opened, a false telephone and a drinks table wired to a buzzer.

It is a light-hearted side to a potentially dangerous job. Two of Captain King's predecessors each had a leg blown off when stepping on hidden anti-personnel mines and two years ago a Gurkha soldier was killed when he picked up an apparently innocent Argentine

ammunition case that had been boobytrapped. Because of the difficulty in locating the plastic-coated mines, the Ministry of Defence has decided that rather than risk more injuries there will be no further attempts to clear minefields except when they present a real threat.

Instead, the known minefields are fenced off by barbed wire. Red notices bear the skull and crossbones and carry the warning "Mines". A total of 119 minefields have been identified on the island, most of them near Port Stanley, and every visitor is lectured on the dangers. The police hand out minefield maps as routinely as street directions.

Despite detailed research, no foolproof method has been discovered that will enable guaranteed clearance of fields of plastic mines.

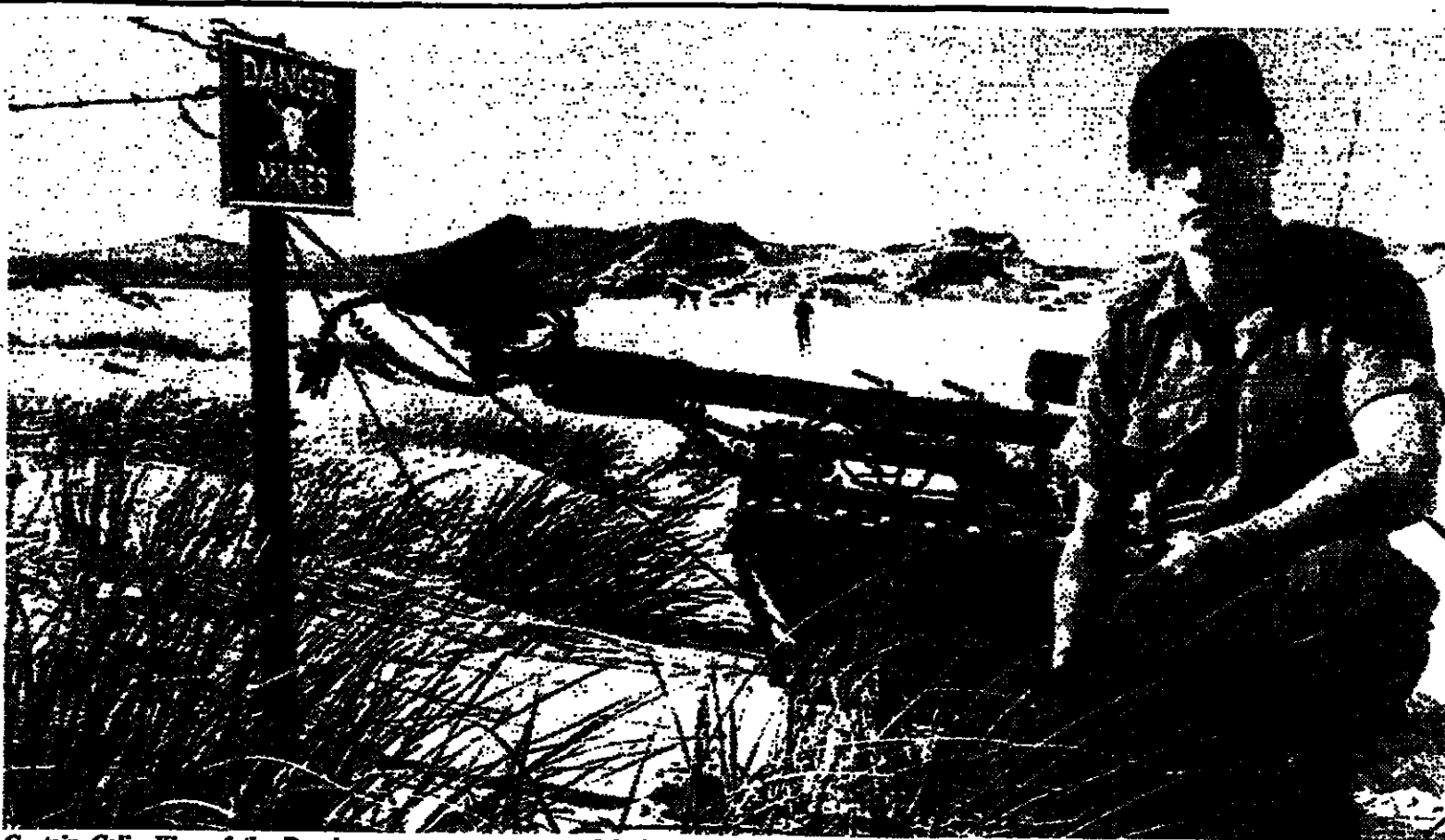
So unless there is an imminent danger, such as a child innocently wandering into a minefield, the teams are not allowed to undertake clearance work despite the belief of some of the engineers that they could safely do so.

The disposal teams are, however, kept busy maintaining the fencing around the minefields, dealing with newly-discovered boobytraps and bombs and lecturing about the dangers.

All the soldiers who join the bomb disposal teams are volunteers and some may question their sanity. Captain King, aged 24, doesn't see it that way. "We are not adrenalin freaks or people who actively go out seeking danger."

"It is difficult to say that without people thinking you are some kind of nutcase. But the challenge is there, and it is very satisfying when you use your skill and experience successfully."

Apart from the hundreds of



Captain Colin King of the Royal Engineers with the Redfire robot on the perimeter of a minefield at Port Stanley, near Port Stanley in the Falklands. The vehicle is used by his bomb disposal team to clear

thousands of Argentine mines - four types of anti-personnel and five varieties of anti-tank mines have been discovered - Captain King and his men are also still dealing with British shells fired and bombs dropped during the war.

He said there are still 30,000 lb bombs unaccounted for around Port Stanley alone and there are also unexploded

Two of Captain King's predecessors had legs blown off

cluster bombs that are so sensitive they can be triggered by the mere temperature change induced by falling under your shadow.

Inside the Redwing Club - named after the emblem that identifies the bomb disposal vehicles - failure to spot a boobytrap can only cost a soldier his money. Outside, on the shores and fields of the Falklands, a similar failure could cost him his life.

away landmines planted during the war with Argentina in 1982. The Secretary of State for Defence, Mr George Younger, was given a demonstration of the device during his current visit to the islands. Mr

Younger defended the Government policy of no wholesale clearance of minefields until there was a method which guaranteed 100 per cent success. He said it was not worth risking military life and limbs until

that could be achieved. In war it was acceptable that there should be some degree of risk when a minefield had to be cleared, but that could not be done in areas being used by civilians, he said.

will give no numbers for the garrison at present, it is believed to be between 2,500 and 3,000.

Mr Younger would give no details of reductions yesterday, but said that there would be enough to maintain the islands' defence, together with regular reinforcement exercises from the UK.

A British presence was realistic, he said, as far ahead as he could look. The islanders had a right under the United Nations Charter to self-determination, and the British Government intended to carry out its obligation to allow them to carry out that right.

Asked if there had been any move by the US Defence Department for American use of the base and its facilities, he denied any such approach or that such suggestions had been made by Whitehall.

Younger calms Stanley defence fears

From Our Defence Correspondent Port Stanley

Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Defence, yesterday rejected fears that the concentration of military forces at the new Mount Pleasant complex in the Falklands would leave the capital open to surprise Argentine attack.

On the final day of his first tour of the islands since taking office, Mr Younger was tackled about the concern of some islanders that the move of most British forces to the new airport area, 30 miles from Port Stanley, would expose other regions to possible invasion.

He said that military commanders were well aware of their obligations to defend the whole of the islands and that Port Stanley and its own airfield, now being prepared

for a return to civilian use in a clear-up operation by Royal Engineers, were two important points.

"The key to all the defences of these islands, if they should ever be under threat again, is our ability to reinforce quickly," he said. "That is the reason why Mount Pleasant is the most important point, from the point of view of the defence of every island."

"The top priority is to defend Mount Pleasant, to bring in large amounts of reinforcements quickly."

Rear-Admiral Christopher Layman, Commander, British Forces Falkland Islands, also sought to reassure islanders: "I can promise you we will make it very difficult indeed for any Argentine who thinks it worth having a surprise attack on Port Stanley."

Most British forces on the islands will move to the new

complex within months, completing a gradual transfer. The headquarters of all three services are also due to be moved from the capital to Mount Pleasant within days.

The ability to bring reinforcements direct from Britain within 18 hours if required, in the event of any emergency or increase in tension, means that the numbers of personnel stationed on the islands can be reduced, further bringing down garrison maintenance costs.

Yesterday, however, Mr Younger would not be drawn on the precise numbers to be left stationed in the Falklands.

He was asked about a radio interview with the British Forces Broadcasting Service in April last year, in which he referred to the possibility of not more than 1,000 troops based on the islands. Although Ministry of Defence officials

will give no numbers for the garrison at present, it is believed to be between 2,500 and 3,000.

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Aquino relative seeks ceasefire

Cotabato, Philippines (Reuters) - Mrs Margarita Cojuangco, President Aquino's sister-in-law, who has close ties with the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF), arrived here yesterday to negotiate a ceasefire to end three days of Muslim rebel attacks which threaten a weekend visit by the President.

General Fidel Ramos, chief of the armed forces, said that 30 people, mainly rebels, died and 57 were hurt in the MILF attacks on Mindanao Island.

Acquittal on guns charge

Athens - Mr Egerton Duckworth, aged 64, a retired British diplomatic employee arrested briefly last February after Greek police discovered five pistols and ammunition in his house, was acquitted by an Athens Court yesterday (Mario Modiano wires).

The court accepted that Mr Duckworth is a bona fide collector of hand-guns and was not aware of the need to obtain a gun licence after he retired and lost his diplomatic status.

Roof caves in

Bucharest (AP) - Ten workers died and 47 were injured, some of them critically, when the roof of a hall at a mining equipment enterprise in Satu Mare caved in.

No execution

Bonn (Reuters) - Mr Mohamed Ali Hamadei, a Lebanese aged 22 suspected of air piracy and murder in the hijack of a TWA airliner to Beirut, will be extradited for trial to the US only if it guarantees that he will not be executed, justice officials said.

Free checks

Bangkok (Reuters) - Thailand will offer free medical checks for tourists and to tourists and prostitutes during the current "Visit Thailand Year".

Police to go

Lima (Reuters) - Two hundred Peruvian police, including four generals, will soon be sent into early retirement in a major shake-up of the 85,000-strong force.

Safe landing

Rio de Janeiro (Reuters) - A Boeing 707 aircraft with 154 passengers aboard made a safe emergency landing at a Brazilian airport after one of its engines fell off as it prepared to land.

Train deaths

Nairobi (Reuters) - Twenty-one people were killed and 45 injured seriously in a train crash near the central Sudanese town of Kosti.

First talks

Brussels (AP) - Experts from the European Community and the Soviet Union have ended two days of talks on establishing official relations, the first such contacts in the EEC's 30 years.

Eta 'terror group' held in flat raid

From Richard Wigg Madrid

Spanish anti-terrorist police yesterday seized six alleged members of Eta's "Spain Commando", three men and three women, in a dawn raid on a Madrid flat.

It was a serious blow against a group hunted for months as responsible for some of the worst terrorist attacks by the Basque armed separatist organisation in recent years.

Señor José Barriomereu, the Interior Minister, was reported to have stayed up all night supervising preparations for the raid, in which the six captured were surprised in their sleep in a flat block in a lower middle class east Madrid suburb.

No shots were fired, but neighbours reported hearing an explosion, apparently set off by police at the suspects' front door. Residents said that two young Basque-speaking women had lived in the flat for a year; they described them as pleasant enough, but said that they always kept the blinds down.

Security checks went into force yesterday in an effort to stop any other members of the group fleeing the capital.

At least two other flats suspected as Eta hideouts have been located, together with a garage and two cars apparently hired by the group. Arms, explosives, and false documents were seized.

During the past 18 months the "Spain Commando" has been thought to be responsible for 20 deaths in Madrid. The worst attacks came in July: nine Civil Guards were killed by a car bomb as they were passing through a central Madrid square, and a week later a grenade attack was made against the Defence Ministry.

Señor Felipe González, the Prime Minister, was deeply affected by these attacks, timed by Eta just as Parliament was entering him for a second four-year term.

Originally named the "Madrid Commando", the group has in almost 10 years assassinated and kidnapped Spanish generals and admirals, including a direct descendant of Christopher Columbus, bankers and magistrates.

Talk of peace while fighting continues in southern Lebanon

Palestinian camp clings to beach lifeline for supplies

From Ian Murray, Naqurah, south Lebanon

The coastal road from the United Nations policekeeping force's headquarters here to Tyre, 10 miles to the north, is closed by the firing point. The siege of the Palestinian refugee camp at Rashidieh, half way along the road, is continuing and there is no safe way through.

The camp commands the beach which has become its lifeline. From the sea come the supplies and armaments that enable the beleaguered Palestinians to hold on against the encircling Shia Muslim Amal militia. By controlling the beach the Palestinians look as though they can hold on forever.

Though they control the beach, Israel controls the sea. Israeli patrol boats range freely up and down the Lebanese coast and out into the Mediterranean, closely monitoring all maritime movement. At the UNHCR headquarters there is no doubt that the Israeli Navy is allowing supplies for the camp to slip through regularly to ensure that the siege continues.

This contrasts with the way in which Israeli Navy patrols earlier this month turned back ferries from Cyprus to the Christian Lebanese port of Jounieh, on the ground that they were being used to bring in Palestinians and weapons.

Intelligence sources here insist that the ferries provided the main route for the 6,000

Palestinian fighters who have returned to Lebanon since they were forced to leave by the Israeli Army in 1982.

Although the ferries are now being allowed through unmolested, it seems likely that

The Islamic Jihad group yesterday threatened to strike against Kuwait if it hosts the summit meeting of the Islamic Conference Organization, but maintained silence over efforts to secure the release of foreigners held captive in Lebanon (Juan Carlos Gamero writes from Beirut).

The threat came in a statement in west Beirut as Mr Terry Waite, the Archbishop of Canterbury's special envoy, continued a series of public meetings in an attempt to free 18 foreigners and scores of Lebanese held hostage by a variety of groups. The statement was accompanied by a photograph of Mr Terry Anderson, a US journalist kidnapped in March, 1985, as proof of its authenticity.

Israel is keeping a close eye on their passenger lists. While there seems to be no objection to prolonging the siege, which ties down two potentially hostile groups, Israel wants to hinder the Palestinian build-up in Lebanon. The real concern of the patrol boats, however, is to prevent guerrilla suicide squads from reaching Israel by sea, as they have done with murderous success in the past.

Powerful radar systems, capable of counting the number of men and weapons in a dinghy, guide the patrols and proved their worth last July when four men were intercepted as their rubber dinghy was about to enter Israeli waters.

For their part, the Palestinians have spent considerable effort and money trying to build up their own trained navy. Reports here suggest they operate about 10 small cargo ships, flying Greek, Lebanese, South American or Cypriot flags, which make a lot of money running contraband and drugs.

The "military fleet" is said to consist largely of hired pleasure yachts or fishing boats hired for specific jobs, such as smuggling men and weapons ashore at one of the 50 tiny safe anchorages along the Lebanese coast.

Palestinian sources claim that the Israeli Navy has stopped more than 20 such vessels at sea over the past 18 months.

In view of this high arrest rate, the Israeli Navy believes that Palestinians are under training to come ashore as frogmen or to mount suicide missions in fast motor boats packed with explosives, steered to crash into slow-moving military or cargo vessels.

By announcing this week his intention of escalating the war against Mozambique's rebels, Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister of Zimbabwe, appears to have committed himself even more deeply to a long, morale-sapping and costly war.

On Thursday, Mr Mugabe and President Chissano of Mozambique ended a three-hour meeting with a communiqué saying that their military operations would be increased until the South African-supported Mozambique National Resistance Movement (MNR) was wiped out.

They have set themselves a heavy task. Zimbabwe began pouring thousands of troops into Mozambique in July 1985, with the aim of splitting the country by means of an outwardly-expanding corridor through the provinces of Manica and Sofala, and paralysing the MNR.

The corridor, running along the road, railway and pipeline for 142 miles from the eastern Zimbabwe border city of Mutema to the Indian Ocean port of Beira, has been protected by a force ranging from 6,000 to 15,000 men to ensure the corridor's running and development of what would be Harare's only trade outlet should South Africa shut its borders with Zimbabwe.

But 19 months later the rail and pipeline continue to suffer sabotage attacks. Heavily armed convoys on the road are considered a necessity to fend off ambushes.

Military sources report Zimbabwe to be suffering casualties at a regular rate of eight to 10 men a week.

No details of the proposals agreed by Mr Mugabe and Mr Chissano have yet emerged, but military experts see the likelihood of boosting manpower - already at a third of the full Zimbabwe National Army - and the possibility of opening new fronts.

Ceasefire proposal by Israel

From Zoriana Pysariwsky New York

Israel has proposed a six-month ceasefire in southern Lebanon as a first step towards completing Israeli withdrawal from the border area. It said that it would be willing to negotiate the terms of the pull-out with any Lebanese party in a position to guarantee security in the region.

Mr Johanan Bein, the Israeli representative, made the offer at the United Nations Security Council, which on Thursday extended the mandate of the UN peacekeeping operation in southern Lebanon (Unifil) for a further six months. He said that, although it was impossible at this stage for Israel to contemplate a pull-out, it would do so once the integrity and security of the common border with Lebanon was ensured.

Israel has come under heavy criticism for the death of an Irish UN soldier who was killed on January 10 by a round fired from an Israeli Defence Force tank during the bombardment of the Lebanese village of Brashit. The Israeli proposal, while largely seen as a non-starter, was nevertheless perceived as an effort to limit the damage.

Israel's contrite message to the Security Council over the Irishman's death indicated the importance Israel attaches to the Unifil presence.

Ethnic split agreed in Canadian north

From John Best, Ottawa

Canada's vast, thinly populated North-West Territories are to be divided into two distinct parts, largely along ethnic lines.

Under an agreement worked out by northern leaders on Thursday, the area of 1.3 million square miles will be carved into an eastern territory called Nunavut, inhabited mainly by Inuit or Eskimos, and a western territory known as Denendeh.

The 17,000 Inuit of Canada's Eastern Arctic have long been pushing for a homeland.

The western territory will be populated by 11,000 Indians

and peoples of part-Indian stock, but will also contain 17,000 non-aboriginal peoples, and 2,500 Inuit.

The total population of the North-West Territories, which stretch north from the 60th parallel and include Canada's Arctic islands, reaching to within about 500 miles of the North Pole, is 61,000.

The agreement worked out Thursday at Igloolik (long known as Frobisher Bay), on Baffin Island, 1,200 miles north of Ottawa, was being placed before federal government officials here yesterday by the principal negotiators.

Scarecrow of Oz dies



Ray Bolger, left, the actor and dancer best known for his role as Scarecrow, right, in *The Wizard of Oz*, died on January 15. He was 83, and the last surviving member of the cast that followed the Yellow Brick Road in the 1939 film. Raymond Wallace Bolger began his career in vaudeville and made his screen debut in *The Great Ziegfeld* in 1936; elected to the US Theatre Hall of Fame in 1980, he took part in his last film, *That's Dancing*, in 1985.

Mugabe deepens his Maputo commitment

From Jan Raath, Harare

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Kohl's rivals put brave face on fears of defeat and plan post-poll role

"This election is not really a battle between Kohl and Rau," one of Chancellor Helmut Kohl's advisers said this week. "Kohl is going to win. The real battle is about what happens after the election."

Some West German commentators say that the Social Democratic Party (SPD), led by Herr Johannes Rau, is heading for its worst defeat for decades, and that there are warnings here for the British Labour Party.

Herr Rau regards the defence policies adopted by Labour under Mr Neil Kinnock's leadership as unrealistic. But the SPD's own policies, including pacts with the East German Communist Party, a proposal for a nuclear-free corridor in Central Europe and opposition to West Germany's taking part in America's Strategic Defence Initiative do not look like winning many votes.

Most SPD supporters take for granted that the Christian Democratic Union (CDU) and its Bavarian sister party, the Christian Social Union (CSU), will win a comfortable majority on January 25. The economy is booming and there are no election issues for the SPD and the Greens to exploit.

There is a nagging fear among the two conservative parties that they could lose some votes to new groups on the right of the political spectrum. Herr Franz Josef Strauss, the CSU leader, is nervous because his party lost ground to the far right in recent Bavarian Land (state) elections.

He and Herr Kohl have indulged in anti-communist rhetoric to head off the right-wing threat, to the point where Herr Kohl felt obliged this week to step back and reassert the continuity and moderation of West German policy towards the Soviet bloc as espoused by Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the Foreign Minister.

There is some doubt over the future of Herr Genscher, who belongs to the small Free Democrat Party (FDP). He may not get enough support to continue as a minister in Bonn, in which case Herr Strauss, the bogeyman of the left, could take over the Foreign Ministry.

From Richard Owen, Bonn

But the SPD's own troubles are far more serious. The party leadership is already looking ahead in internal discussions to an investigation after defeat while maintaining in public that it can win the election and that the opinion polls are wrong.

A disastrous defeat would place a question mark over the future of Herr Rau, the former regional Prime Minister in North Rhine-Westphalia, who has run a hard-working but lacklustre campaign.

WEST GERMAN ELECTIONS

With only eight days to go before the West German federal election, the Social Democrats (SPD) claim that they are closing the gap rapidly between themselves and Chancellor Kohl's Christian Democrats (CDU) (John England writes from Bonn).

Not only that, they say, but in an opinion poll this week Herr Johannes Rau, the SPD candidate for the chancellorship, overtook Herr Kohl in personal popularity as the man to lead the country after the election on January 25.

His personal popularity is relatively high; he scores nearly 35 per cent in the opinion polls, compared with a personal rating for Chancellor Kohl of 40 per cent.

Although the Chancellor dominates German politics and is apparently leading the CDU to a decisive victory, he is not widely liked or admired outside his own party, as were his SPD predecessors, Herr Helmut Schmidt and Herr Willy Brandt. Herr Kohl has suffered because of the Flick industrial scandal and a series of spy episodes.

Herr Rau, who became the SPD candidate after the party's convincing win in state elections in North Rhine-Westphalia in 1985, can claim considerable administrative experience. North Rhine-Westphalia is the largest of the

West German states, with nearly a third of the total population and the all-important Ruhr Valley industries. He comes across as a likeable, honest man whose socialism is founded in Christian belief, hence his nickname "Brother John".

And yet he has evidently failed to convince the voters, partly because the SPD, not unlike the Labour Party, is at war with itself. He has to balance right and left wings, not least on defence, while being as vague as possible about what the SPD's defence policy actually is.

The left wing of the party, led by Herr Oskar Lafontaine, the Saarland Prime Minister, favours a role in Nato for West Germany similar to that played by France. This has enabled Herr Kohl and Herr Strauss to lambast the SPD for alleged anti-Americanism, neutralism and unilateralism.

Most voters seem to accept that because of its geopolitical situation and its front-line role in East-West relations, West Germany has no option but to remain a loyal member of Nato and a firm US ally.

The strains within the SPD have become disastrously evident in the final stages of the campaign in a row between Herr Peter Glotz, the SPD election campaign manager and protégé of Herr Brandt, and Herr Bodo Hombach, Herr Rau's personal campaign manager, about where things have gone wrong.

The SPD has been further damaged by a scandal over corruption and embezzlement in a housing trust, the trade union-owned Neue Heimat.

The idea of an alliance between the SPD and the Greens is much canvassed by some Greens. But even in states where such an alliance exists at local level, such as Hesse, there are tensions over policy. One such issue is the nuclear power industry, which the Greens want to see ended immediately but which the SPD wants to phase out gradually.

There is small comfort for the opposition parties in the thought that the CDU-CSU alliance is itself under some strain, with Herr Kohl having to contain the ebullient Herr Strauss, accused by the SPD of being a cold warrior abroad and a disciplinarian at home.

South Africa's first non-racial roll call



Mrs Bonnie Wiggill, a teacher at Uthongathi, South Africa's first non-racial school, taking roll call with her class.

Pressures grow on segregated schools

From George Brock, Johannesburg

With remarkably little fanfare, South Africa's first fully non-racial school opened this week.

A hundred pupils enrolled at the newly-built private school near Durban, called Uthongathi, creating a small oasis in which apartheid laws, which make such a school impossible, are suspended. Three more such schools are planned.

The opening of Uthongathi signifies an unusual concession by a Government committed to "separate but equal" policies in education as in other areas. It comes when community pressures over segregated education are rising.

Racial mixing has recently been allowed in some private schools, but only to a limited extent. Now a few local campaigns to open government schools to all races are under way, but they have led to pressure from whites to maintain segregation.

Parents at two secondary schools in the Cape asked for their schools to be opened to other races, and were refused ministerial permission. Yesterday the parent-teacher-student association at a school in the separate Indian system asked for open admissions.

Last week, community pressure forced Escom, the national electricity commission, to abandon plans to allow an obsolete training centre to be turned into a multiracial college at Hestley-on-Klip, a village near Johannesburg.

In at least one town in the Transvaal, permission has been refused for black children from an overcrowded school to use empty classrooms at the local white school.

Private business has been behind much of the pressure for open schooling because of fears about the economic disadvantages of a future under-educated workforce.

Uthongathi, which means "a place of importance" in Zulu, has also been made possible by corporate charity. Anglo-American, the giant conglomerate, put up most of the money; Johannesburg Consolidated Investments has given 23 million to build an equivalent school in the Transvaal.

Smaller funds will ensure that about three-quarters of the fees at Uthongathi will be paid for by bursaries.

Black business college reopens in Soweto

Johannesburg (AP) — A private high school designed to give black students a superior education in business and management has reopened in Soweto.

The Planned Advancement for Commercial Education College was a victim last October of boycotts and harassment of its students and teachers by the "Comrades", young black militants.

It was funded by US companies doing business in South Africa, and the American Chamber of Commerce said it was "dependent on the payment of fees by parents".

The chamber's executive director, Mr Kenneth Mason, said the curriculum of English, Afrikaans, business economics, accounting, mathematics, typing and development studies had been expanded.

UN chief in mission to revive Contadora

From Zoriana Pysarivsky, New York

A mission to revive the ill-starred Contadora peace process is gathering in Panama today to discuss strategy before making a tour of Central America aimed at averting a regional showdown.

The Secretaries-General of the United Nations and of the Organization of American States (OAS), Señor Javier Pérez de Cuéllar and Senhor João Baena Soares, respectively, are heading the team.

Accompanied on their two-day tour of five countries by the foreign ministers of eight Latin American countries sponsoring the Contadora treaty, they are hoping to find an antidote to American successes which have driven a wedge between Nicaragua and its neighbours.

The Contadora draft treaty includes provisions for an end to international military manoeuvres, outside support for guerrillas and arms trafficking. It calls for the establishment of democratic rule and the removal of foreign military advisers.

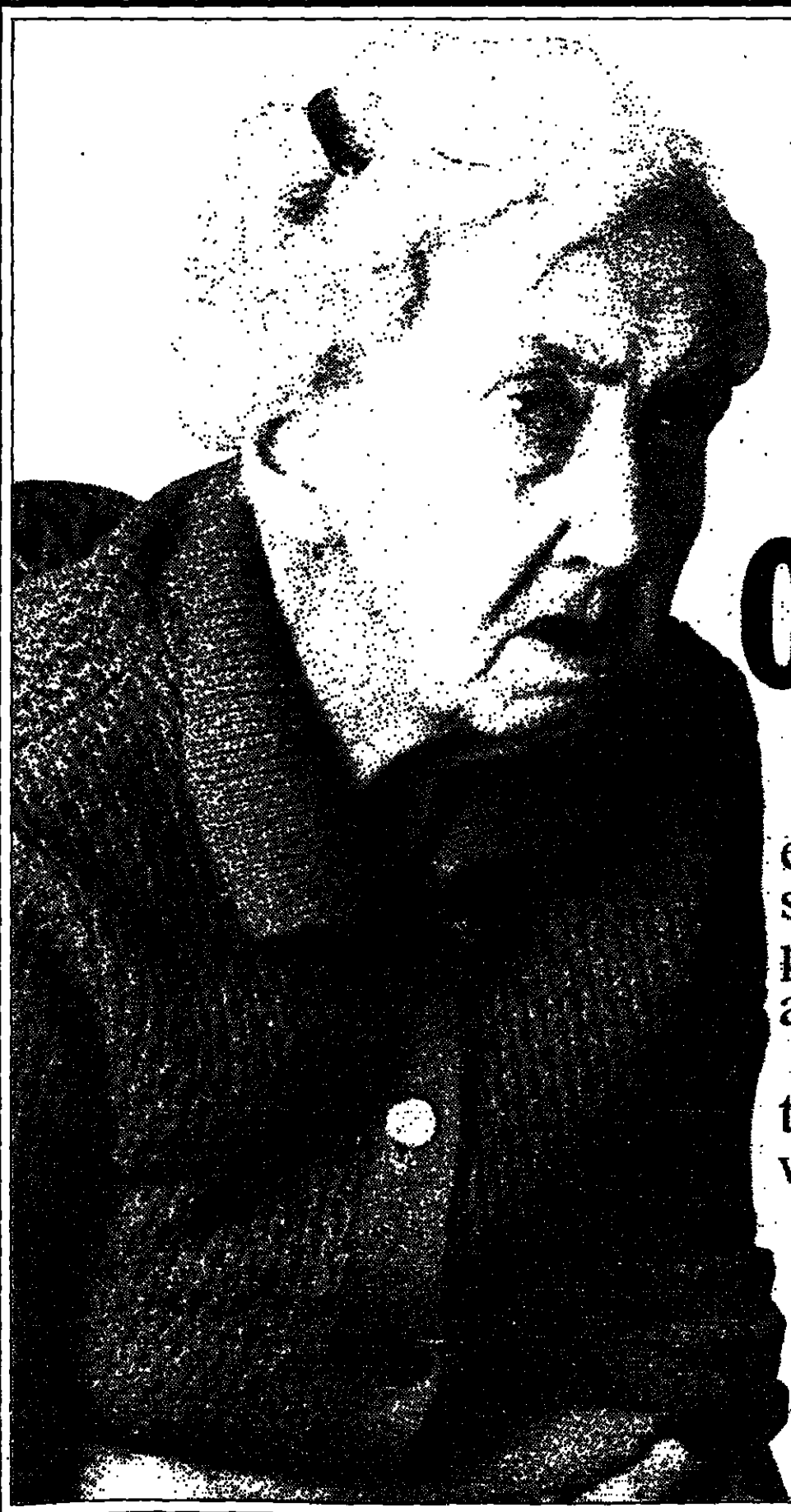
But Honduras, Costa Rica and El Salvador have objected that the document fails to offer watertight verification procedures, which would guarantee strict Nicaraguan compliance with the terms of the treaty.

To overcome that hurdle, the UN and OAS leaders have proposed a multinational force for Nicaragua's borders with Honduras and Costa Rica, and electronic monitoring of troop movements.

The idea is to make it difficult for countries to continue voicing reservations to the document and to show greater independence from the US, with the effect of greatly reducing tensions.

But the Contadora mission is facing fierce competition from a Costa Rican plan understood to centre on a ceasefire in the Contra-Sandinista struggle, in return for an end to the state of emergency and a general amnesty.

But since Sandinista power would be diluted and the American-inspired plan is certain to be rejected, diplomats say that it provides only a diplomatic veil for the Reagan Administration to pursue more congressional aid for the Contras and more intimidation of Managua.



COLD WAR CASUALTIES

Last week, our exclusive exposure of the Government's severe weather regulations prompted public outcry and a change of policy.

Seven days later, how are the old faring in the worst winter for years?

GUINNESS: NOW FOR THE HANGOVER.



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Surf

magazine



SARAH BRIGHTMAN: FROM HOT GOSSIP TO HOT PROPERTY

HARRISON FORD IN THE MOSQUITO COAST

by Paul Theroux



THE SUNDAY TIMES
BETTER THAN A MONTH OF OTHER SUNDAYS

The girl who danced with death

Photographs by Berna Oetring and Alex Gostly

**At 25 Gelsey Kirkland was already
acclaimed as one of the world's
greatest ballerinas; by 28 she was
hooked on heroin, cocaine and valium,
ready to prostitute herself for drugs.
Peter Fearon tells how the story of her
addiction and her destructive love
affairs has shocked the ballet world**

In April last year ballerina Gelsey Kirkland, weeping with emotion, stood on the stage at Covent Garden with the Royal Ballet's artistic director Anthony Dowell taking a tumultuous ovation after a majestic performance of Kenneth Macmillan's *Romeo and Juliet*.

It was a remarkable comeback — not merely because she had not performed publicly for two years but because in 1984 few who knew Kirkland could have predicted that she would still be alive in 1986, let alone dancing.

Kirkland danced with the New York City Ballet when she was 11; at 15 she was a full-time member — the youngest ever — of the prestigious company's corps de ballet; and at 25 she was on the cover of *Time* magazine, hailed as America's greatest dancer.

She had dazzled audiences in the United States, Europe and the Soviet Union with her lightning speed and eloquence. Clive Barnes, then *New York Times* critic, wrote: "There is already such authority and breeding that you can hardly wait to see the dancer, she must surely develop into."

But by the time she was 28 she was a confirmed drug addict, physically dependent on cocaine, heroin and valium, willing to prostitute herself for drugs, skulking into New York ghettos in the night in search of the next high.

By then, one critic had denounced a performance as "the saddest exhibition I've seen by a dancer". It was as much a condemnation of her private life as of her art. The Sugar Plum Fairy of Tchaikovsky's *Nutcracker* had succumbed to drugs and become the Snow Queen of dance.

Before her lay dismissal from her dance company, the American Ballet Theatre, months in a mental institution, and the threat of death from prolonged drug abuse.

The detailed story of her decline into drug addiction and her ultimate recovery is told in her autobiography, *Dancing On My Grave* (£12.95), to be published in

Britain next month by Hamish Hamilton. The publication of the book in America in October stunned the ballet world there. The professionals of the business, in particular, were aghast at the revelations.

Her story of the offstage pain and self-abuse is powerful, compelling, and almost as painful to read as it must have been to live. The daughter of an alcoholic writer — Jack Kirkland, author of *Tobacco Road* — she had a predisposition to addiction and compulsive behaviour. As a child she built a home-made rack and stretched herself on it in a futile attempt to gain height, and she appears to have been creating instruments of torture for herself ever since.

As a teenager she had silicone implants placed in her upper lip and three separate breast operations; she had her ear lobes clipped and she periodically starved herself and took emetics, all to conform to a style of beauty, or at least a certain look, favoured by the choreographer George Balanchine, creator of the New York City Ballet and the pre-eminent figure in American dance for 50 years until he died in 1983. The operations were pathetic attempts to try to mimic the features of Suzanne Farrell, a former star of the New York City Ballet who had been particularly favoured by Balanchine.

The lip-implant still betrays her features today. It billows from her nose like a curtain caught by the breeze, giving her a permanent and incongruous pout.

According to the gossip columns her life offstage was as glittering and romantic as her appearances on stage. She had romances with Peter Martins, now director of the New York City Ballet, and Mikhail Baryshnikov, the Russian defector now director of the American Ballet Theatre, and with fellow dancer and addict Patrick Bissell.

The reality was different, and she uses the book to indict Balanchine, Baryshnikov, Martins, Bissell, and the ballet establishment.



Pouting beauty: even as a brilliant young ballerina, Gelsey Kirkland was obsessed by perfection; today her drooping lip reveals a silicone implant, undergone to impress George Balanchine

Balanchine, she says, gave her amphetamines before a performance in Moscow so that she could dance when she was apparently unfit to take the stage.

Baryshnikov, the romantic fantasy of millions of women, is described as a selfish lover, insensitive as a partner both in bed and on the stage. Martins is portrayed as a womanizer, Bissell as an all-but-hopeless addict, their relationship predicated on the availability of cocaine.

Periodically, Gelsey Kirkland would have a seizure, the result of neurological damage caused by heavy cocaine use. Once it happened at the centre in the Lincoln Centre and she sustained a serious head injury.

She and Patrick Bissell were ultimately fired from the American Ballet Theatre for missing rehearsals — the result of their notorious drug habit. Miss Kirkland claims, however, that there were other drug and alcohol cases at the ABT — choreographers, conductors, musicians, teachers, stage hands and costumers, whose addictions were as serious as her own.

After Bissell there was a succession of casual lovers and Kirkland, now 34, admits that, in the end, she would sell

herself to anyone who could supply her with drugs. "Sex could be exchanged for cocaine and cocaine for sex," she says.

"Total insanity" is how she now describes her drug compulsions, her mania for cosmetic surgery and her obsessive dieting to stay as painfully thin as Balanchine demanded. She told an American television audience recently: "He [Balanchine] knocked on my chest and he said 'You know, dear, what is important is to see bones'. Down to the bone. That is what he believed was truly beautiful."

She tells of a rehearsal with Baryshnikov. "I was bucking over on my toes. I was blowing my nose. I had runny eyes. I kept saying 'Stop', but I couldn't get my mouth open because it was so dehydrated from so much cocaine. He was there to help me and he just stood back and maybe said a few things and left. Cocaine was never mentioned. It was never mentioned."

She was persuaded to write the book in part by Jackie Onassis, a fan, ballet patron and her editor at Doubleday. Soon after the book's US

publication Kirkland told the influential *Dance* magazine: "I recount my downfall as a case study, tracing my decline step by step. Suffice to say that the seeds of my destruction were planted early, long before I met those men in my life who played a part in the romantic misadventures so loved by the media."

"There are no real villains in my story. If I seem to point a finger at anyone other than myself, that is not my intention, though it may be unavoidable. By its very nature, my confession implicates others who partnered me in folly. But the only culprit whom I have known, intimately, is human ignorance."

"When asked why I have written the book and why I am making a transition to areas other than performing, I can only say that I feel a responsibility to help educate those who enter my profession. I do not intend to abandon ballet. I want to do more than provide a physical example for others to imitate. There are talents who might surpass anything I have been fortunate enough to accomplish, if only they receive adequate direction."

Dancing On My Grave has been on the best-seller lists in the United States for several

weeks, but the American ballet world has so far closed ranks and is maintaining an imperious silence.

Baryshnikov is said to be wounded but professes not to have read the book: "I prefer European women," he said. "I don't understand American women."

Dance critic Dale Harris wrote in the *Wall Street Journal*: "Many will no doubt consider *Dancing On My Grave* a success story. A more convincing sign of her recovery would have been silence. To have written *Dancing On My Grave* as a therapeutic exercise and then to have locked it away or even burned it in the garden would have demonstrated better than anything else her capacity for forgiveness. As it is, the book does not so much heal ancient wounds as settle old scores."

One night Kirkland was vainly hammering on the door of a drug dealer when she met another addict, Greg Lawrence. She ultimately married Lawrence, weaned herself off drugs and her husband became her co-author, something which may explain her bitterness in print towards her former lovers. The book ends with Kirkland's preparation for her Covent Garden comeback.

She has now returned to the United States and intends to direct and to teach, challenging the orthodoxy of Balanchine, which she attacks so bitterly.

"I am not moved by what I see on the stage," she says, "except for the occasional flash of genius or exceptional talent. I am not touched. I can feel no more than the dancers are able to express. Their feelings and ideas, whatever

they intend to invest in their roles, usually remain locked inside their torsos.

"Their faces, whether smiling or frowning, frequently tell me nothing. They are unable to speak through the dance. They do not seem to believe in their own gestures. Perhaps there is no reason why they should. That is the way they have been trained."

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SATURDAY

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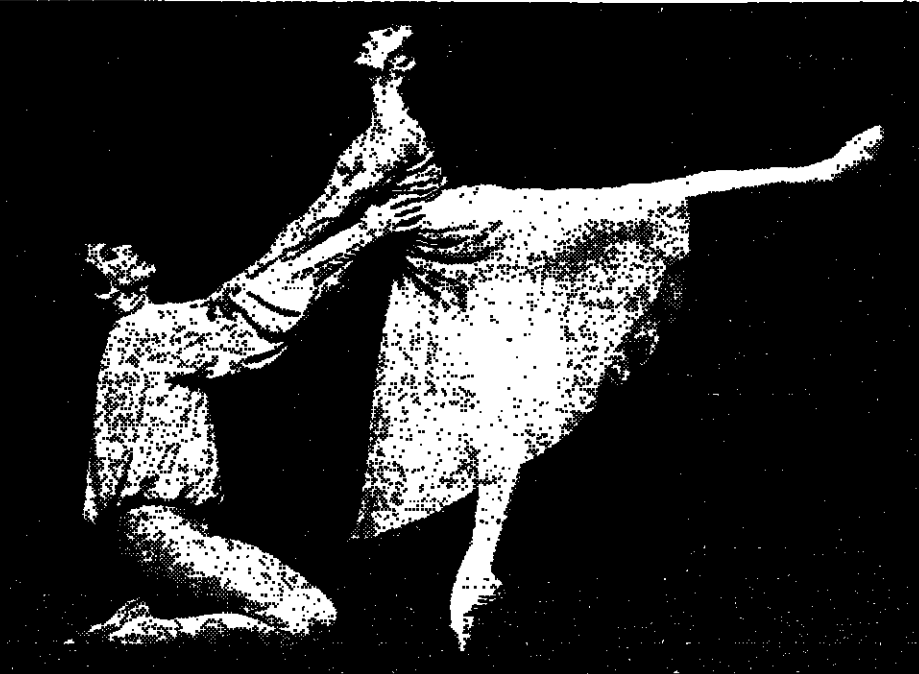
A finely polished jewel

Gelsey Kirkland is one of the world's great dancers, probably the finest classical ballerina of her generation. In Britain her reputation rests on only two television programmes and no more than a dozen stage performances, four of them during American Ballet Theatre's week at the London Coliseum in July 1977, the others as guest with the Royal Ballet at Covent Garden, first in July 1980 and again last year.

Her quality is unmistakable at first sight; her range becomes apparent only when she is seen in several roles. Three factors make her stand out. The first is an innate gift for movement that gives every step, every gesture, a personal signature and makes it look instinctive, inevitable, absolutely right in its context.

Second is the way she has polished that gift like a jeweller working on a precious stone to shape it to its clearest and most glittering perfection.

Third, and perhaps most important, is her obsessive desire to find the meaning of everything she dances, not only when in a dramatic role — a Juliet or Giselle — but even in a pure display ballet such as



Recovery point: Kirkland with Anthony Dowell in *Romeo and Juliet*, her comeback last year

Balanchine's *Tchaikovsky Theme* and *Variations* or the showpiece *pas de deux* from Don Quixote. Even non-dramatic dancing, to satisfy Kirkland, must have shape and logic.

Her need to understand the why as well as the what and how of dancing got her into trouble with her teachers while still a student, but that did not prevent George Balanchine from promoting her quickly when she joined his New York City Ballet. Yet while the

public saw her as Balanchine's creature, the latest in a line of exceptional dancers he had developed, she was inwardly struggling against his way of working.

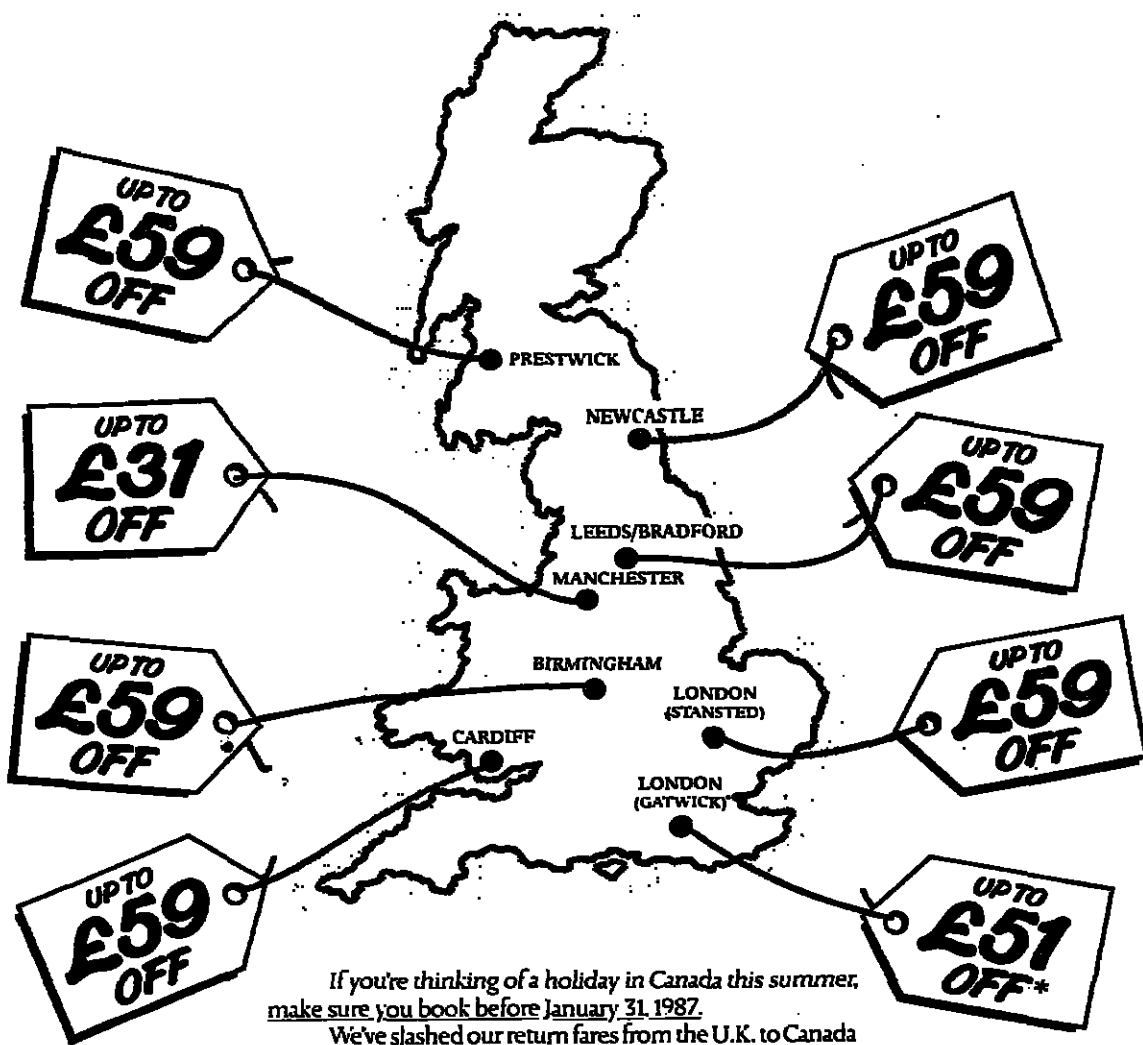
Kirkland does not see her future as lying with one of the big New York-based companies, unless circumstances change. While rehearsing her latest London appearances in *The Sleeping Beauty*, she was in such pain from an injury that it seemed unlikely she would ever dance again. But

before returning to America she had discussions with the Royal Ballet and with London Festival Ballet about possible future performances.

She is a difficult person to work with, a perfectionist who demands extra rehearsal time and gets it. But her methods work, and anyone who has seen her dance will want to prolong her performing career as long as possible.

John Percival
Dance Critic

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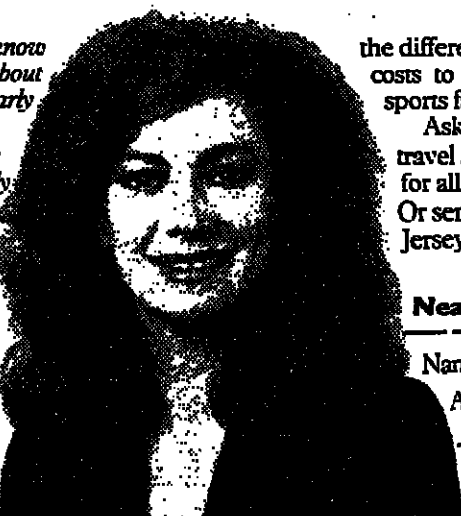


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Battery tourism in the sun

Greed was the main holiday memory
Michael Watkins brought back from
a short stay on once-tranquil Ibiza

At the risk of spoiling your breakfast, I'd like to tell you about our few days in Ibiza.

We took a villa, a Meon villa, situated down a track that could have been used as an artillery range. From the terrace, overlooking a small bay, we could see no other house.

The villa had three bedrooms, two bathrooms, kitchen, living-room, dining terrace and a swimming pool. Furniture was not by Chippendale, nor were the bits and pieces by Fabergé; but everything worked a treat.

Being seasoned travellers, we'd brought the stuff of life with us - smoked salmon and the Louis L'Amour '83 - only to discover a fridge groaning with enough of this and that, to keep us plump for a couple of days, including champagne.

A man came to squirt water on the geraniums and dose the pool with chlorine, while there was a maid to tidy the place and polish my watch-strap.

It was idyllic and, had we shown the good sense to lower the portcullis against the rest of the island, I'd have returned to the airport with nothing to moan about. But I am a martyr to boredom so, in no time, we were on the road in the Citroën that went with the villa.

The nearest town to our bay of Cala Salada was San Antonio - until the 1960s a fishing village. Then it sold itself to the lowest bidder and that, as they say, was that. You've heard of battery farming? In San Antonio they inflict this cruelty on humankind: battery tourism.

The tour operators' clients are in the main youngsters, innocents who are bled dry of their last pesetas. They are no match for the predators: the tour guides, discotheques, bar owners, restaurateurs and touts out to skin them.

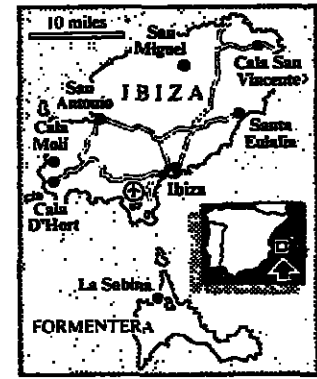
In Ibiza town there were redeeming features: the Dalt Vila gateway, dating from Philip II's reign, into the medieval city; laundry drip-

ping from wrought-iron balconies in Sa Peña; the cathedral of Santa Maria de las Nieves - Our Lady of the Snows, a curious choice of patron saint for an area that does not experience snow.

I liked the steps leading to an old pump in the Cuesta de la Drasaneta, and I liked the way the cobbled alleys had been trodden to the polished sheen of old pewter. But we did not enjoy paying the equivalent of 25 each for two small beers and a cheese roll at a pavement café.

The covered market was as elegant as a church, six columns on either side and tomatoes the size of pumpkins, but boutiques carried cheap labels from Barcelona and the smell of drains made us gag.

Hearing that the Bar Mar y



Sol was the oasis for "eccentrically dressed extroverts", we returned as shadows lengthened. Men did wear earrings and hold hands in a way that would not be encouraged in the smoking-room of Boodles, or smiled sideways through compressed lips, mute inglorious Bogarts on a return ticket from Luton.

For the next two days we explored Ibiza from Santa Eulalia to San Miguel, from Cala San Vicente to Cala Moli. We saw the Piccadilly Bar ("Stan's welcome to homesick boozers"), the Cockney Rebel ("Ennyfink for a lart"), Fred's



Ibiza town: dripping laundry still hangs in picturesque back streets, but main street cafés are an expensive tourist trap

("Remittance men chatting and quaffing"). We saw cod-chips on 100 menus and were awed by the ultimate emancipation of mass toposness.

We tried, and occasionally succeeded, in finding pockets of resistance. There were a few miles of uncluttered scenery on the north coast. A bump along a dirt road in the south-west brought us to Cala d'Hort, surviving as a fishing village. Even so, a "concessionaire" had laid out sunbeds and umbrellas, orderly as a hospital ward, on the stretch of beach.

A few paces from the Mar y Sol is the quay where the ferry sails to neighbouring Formentera. It takes only an hour, but Formentera plays an Iberian Hove to Ibiza's Brighton, such is the culture shock. Landing at the port of La Sabina, we found a taxi driver who took us the length and breadth of the island; nothing was too much trouble and he allowed us, in his courtesy way, to pay 2,000 pesetas (about £10), but no more.

Formentera was flat as a breadboard. How the people make a living from the land I cannot imagine: the winter winds must claw the top-soil straight into the sea. There

were a few truly reprehensible tourist gulags, yet the island did not feel pillaged, the air was pine-scented and there were more bicycles and goats than cars.

What the answer to the rest is, I really don't know. When I think of Escorial, that epitome of Castilian grandeur and tragedy, the pilgrim route to Santiago de Compostela, El Greco's Toledo or the Andalusia of Los Reyes Católicos - when I compare the spirit of these things that went before with the greed of Ibiza, I ask myself: is this the way of the world or a more particular shame?

There is a solution - a boycott. We could stop going to Ibiza, and Mediterranean Spain, for 12 months, in the hope that the Spanish would adjust their prices, clean up their lavatories, brush up their manners, get their hair cut and generally make themselves more worthy of our patronage.

TRAVEL NOTES

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Edited by Shona Crawford Poole

TRAVEL 2

33

Riding out from the common herd

Martin Rogers/Coloraid

Continuing our series on holiday ideas for the over-fifties, Rob Neillands takes to the mountains of Montana for a hard week in the cowboy's saddle

Five o'clock in the morning is getting up time at the Tillet's, TX Ranch cow-camp in the Pryor Mountains of Montana, but the getting up is easy. You simply pull on your boots, put on your hat and there you are, ready to go. This is a working ranch and you come here to cowboy.

Before any reader slips into the notion that rising before dawn to chase cattle about the prairie is any normal way of life, let me hasten to point out that I am very English and I have so far managed to avoid all contact with horses in the firm belief that one end bites the other end kicks, and the bit in the middle is impossible. This visit to a working ranch in Montana was just one of several trips arranged to celebrate my 50th birthday, and I chose the TX Ranch because here it is still possible to go on a real cattle drive of the kind you see in the movies, taking a herd across the Northern Plains into the Bighorn Mountains of Montana.

The TX has always been a working ranch. It began in the traditional fashion in the 1890s, when Lloyd Tillet's grandfather put a herd together in Amarillo, Texas, and drove it north for thousands of



miles into the short-grass country of Wyoming. Today, the Tillet's run 1,400 head of cattle on 10,000 acres of range, and inviting guests to come and lend a hand.

"Ten years ago, the bottom fell out of the beef market," says Abbie Tillet. "Our costs have gone up four times since then and our prices haven't risen by a cent, so we just had to diversify to survive. We didn't want to go broke and put in a pool and all that, so Lloyd and I thought maybe people would like to come and stay on a real ranch and work cattle — and they do! We get a lot of people coming here from all over the world, and they all love to cowboy — which is a good thing. We don't offer them anything else."

Apart from three full-time cowboys, Hip, Cash and Blue, all work on the ranch is done by the visitors, about half of whom were girls, all city-slickers from as far away as Los Angeles and New York.

G. Torrell/Coloraid



Crisp mornings, wonderful scenery and the quiet attractions of the lonesome range: rich but hard-earned rewards for the dawn-to-dusk, dust-covered cowboy

On the TX Ranch, work means work. Just in case I had harboured a different notion, one hour after sunrise we were out in the corral castrating cattle.

Then the wrangler went off to round up the horse herd and the day's work really began, with the cowboys and guests splitting into small groups to comb the hills and draw for cattle and calves, gathering the trail herd of 300 head that we had to drive to the high summer range. Riding on those big Western saddles came easily enough, and I progressed from a walk to a trot to a lope in a couple of days, and without too much agony.

Once we had gathered up a hundred head, it was back to the corral again, where the young bulls were roped, branded, inoculated, castrated and dehorned, a long afternoon of heat, dust, blood and noise, everyone sharing the jobs around. I got away with it for an hour or so, but it couldn't last. Eventually we got on to the tricky stuff.

"It's Rob's turn to rope," declared Kenny, handing me the lariat, so I roped a cow, much to my surprise, and whoops of delight from the sudden crowd of spectators on the top rail of the corral, snubbing the rope quickly round a post as the others rushed down to do the dirty work. In fact, I roped, branded, inoculated, wrestled and rode, only drawing the line at the dehorning and castrating, but even so, by the end of each day I was a very tired old cowboy.

Fortunately, those old cowboy medics, Dr. Jim Bean

and Dr. Jack Daniels, were on hand to ease my aches and pains round the camp fire each evening, and the Americans, as always, were both cheery and hospitable. I haven't enjoyed myself so much in years. The attractions are, to be honest, a little hard to fathom, because there isn't much glamour in working cattle. I suspect that a holiday

After two days the herd moved out from the Lone Wolf cow-camp and was driven on a long day's ride to Hank's Camp, higher in the hills, just like the great herds were trailed from Texas a century ago. The temperature soared into the 90s during the day, so you sit in your horse's shadow for some shade, while at night the temperature

where General George Armstrong Custer came so memorably unstuck on June 25, 1876.

Cody, in Wyoming, is the centre of Shoshone country, a cowboy town named after the most famous cowboy of them all, William F. Cody, better known as Buffalo Bill, hunter, Indian scout and showman.

Buffalo Bill founded Cody in 1897 and built the first hotel here, The Irma, named after his daughter, which is still open for business. Western buffs will enjoy a visit to the Buffalo Bill Historical Center, a complex of three museums, one of the Plains Indians, one of Cody himself, and one of a vast collection of Winchester firearms. I hid in here from the midday heat, then took a tour West towards the Yellowstone Park, before turning east and driving over the Bighorn Mountains to Sheridan, on what must be one of the most beautiful road journeys in the world. Hot as it was on the plain, there was still snow up on the top of the Bighorns, even at the end of June, but the prairie flowers were all out — bluebonnets and purple sage, running in great drifts of colour up to the snowline, with marvellous views from the road across the flat prairies running off to the distant southern skyline.

The Little Bighorn is a pleasant river, winding its way along a wide and very beautiful valley and not much has changed here since Custer led five troops of the 7th Cavalry to defeat at the hands of the Sioux and Cheyenne. The stages in the battle are quite easy to follow, from the Indian



Wild West heroes: General Custer (left) and Buffalo Bill

on a working ranch is one of those experiences where what you get out of it is very closely linked to what you put in. As Abbie said, "All there is to do is cowboy," and hard as it is, you can see why people do it — the crisp mornings, the marvellous scenery, the empty range, the teamwork you need to deal with irate, piano-sized steers, the satisfaction in trying out crafts that are much more skilful than they first appear.

You get up early and you work all day, eating what you are offered and sleeping on the ground, but that's the way it goes on a working cow ranch. It's hot and hard and dusty — and it's wonderful.

plummeted close to zero, but none of that seemed to matter. We lit fires and sat around for an hour or so telling lies until we keeled over with tiredness. I could have slept on rocks, and frequently did, but I can't wait to do it again.

No-one with any sense goes all the way West for just a week. The usual choice, after a week in the saddle working, is another week on a dude ranch, a kind of holiday camp with horses. After the real thing on the TX, a dude ranch would be a let-down, so I hired a car and drove first south to the Shoshone River country and then east across the Bighorn Mountains to that battlefield by the Little Bighorn River

TRAVEL NOTES

A working holiday on the TX Ranch can be arranged from Britain through Sheila Beecham at American Roundup, PO Box 126, Hemel Hempstead, Herts W1R 2BQ (0442 214621). Prices, for one week, including flights, start at £229. A two-week trip, with one week on a dude ranch, costs from £1,157. Wise visitors will spend their first week on the dude ranch, riding Western style and getting fit. Take warm clothing, waterproofs, a Stetson, boots, and a sense of humour.

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TRAVEL NEWS

Escape the Ice Age

Holiday companies have been inundated this week with bookings from people who want to escape Britain's Arctic weather and head off to the sun.

A spokesman for Wings said holidays to the Canary Islands and The Gambia were "going like crackerjacks", with customers asking if they could take off almost immediately.

Wings have special offers to Gran Canaria, departing on January 19 and 26, with seat-only flights priced at £79 return, self-catering holidays at £159 for half-board in a three-star hotel at £199 for seven nights. Information: 0992 87255.

Kuoni reports "tremendous demand" for long-haul holidays, particularly in Thailand, The Caribbean and East Africa. Information: 0306 885044.

Going solo in Spain

A new hotel-booking service for independent travellers planning a Spanish holiday has

been launched by London-based Hotels in Spain. The company can take reservations for the popular State-owned paradors, not usually bookable through package operators, as well as for hotels run by the Sol group throughout the Spanish mainland and the Balearic Islands.

Hotels in Spain will shortly be publishing a "Spain Unpackaged" brochure offering accommodation-only deals, city breaks, fly-drive and resort holidays. Information: 01-938 3792.

Up-to-date information on snow conditions at the major ski resorts is being displayed at Horizon Travel Centre branches throughout the country.

Music hath charms

An expanded range of holidays linked with major music festivals and ballet or opera performances is being run this year by Sovereign, a subsidiary of British Airways. Festivals introduced to the programme include those at Bregenz, Budapest and Hohenems, while performances by the Prague Opera and Warsaw Opera are also included for the first time. There is also a seven-night

musical tour of East Germany, priced at £289, which includes visits to the birthplaces of Liszt and Weber and to the Semper Opera in Dresden. Information: 01-897 1589.

Berlin breaks

One-night short breaks to Berlin priced from £99 to £109 are being operated by GTF Tours throughout January. Flights with Dan-Air leave Gatwick on Thursday or Sunday, returning the following evening, and there is a choice of five hotels, including the five-star Bristol Hotel Kempinski. Transfers and sightseeing tours are extra. GTF's £69 day trips to Berlin, operating weekly during the winter, are now sold out and there is a long waiting list. Information: 01-229 2474.

Off the beaten track

Eight new tours, including a river-rafting expedition in the Himalayas and a cruise along the coast of Greenland, are included in Swan Hellenic's latest programme of natural history and special-interest holidays. Other new tours include a visit to Spain's Coto de Donana National Park, where some of Europe's rarest birds breed, and a 15-day trip linking Mauritius and Madagascar.

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For brochure, information, reservations contact:

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Both ships, needless to say, are fully air conditioned throughout.

Despite these little comforts, however, a Swan Hellenic cruise certainly isn't all dry Martinis and deck games.

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Blue lagoon: the sweeping sands of Koukarnaries beach

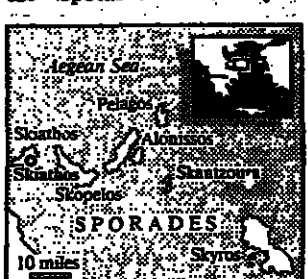
First steps for island idlers

Simon Banner finds a modern threat to the enduring, quiet character of Skiathos

Heading for the Aegean on an English June morning which was as chilly and dark as such mornings can be, I remembered, along with my ticket, what Byron had said about Greece — that it was the only place in which he was ever contented.

Not, of course, that in the end it was a very helpful thing for him to have said, or for me to have remembered. It encourages more speculation about the poet's evident unhappiness than it does about Greece or imminent sea and sun. Poor old Byron, I thought, and here am I going off on holiday. Although you try not to brood, there is really very little else to do at Gatwick. Air travel itself might have been devised simply as a way of escaping the place.

After that, Skiathos, the most popular and accessible of the Sporades islands (the



northern Aegean group which includes Skopelos, Alonissos and Skiros), seemed almost as straightforwardly paradisiacal as the brochures try to pretend. From the air, at least, it is a pale and pure configuration of sea, sky, rock, and very little else, only the fractured English of the local guide suggesting a more complicated reality, talking darkly as it does of the "peculiar inlets", "insular houses", and "lacy beaches", which have secured Skiathos "an important present and a significant future".

With a little practice I soon learned to speak like this. It was as useful in shops and bars with the islanders themselves as it was on those lacy beaches (of which Skiathos has around 70) with the German tourists, who, incidentally, make the major contribution to Skiathos's aforesaid important present.

Koukarnaries is a long and wide beach, crescent-shaped and bordered by a lagoon and a grove of pine trees. It is often called the most beautiful beach in Greece, though that description, and the island's one large hotel which overlooks it, have made it relatively busy. There were many more beaches which were equally lovely, and quieter, if

not altogether deserted, although it generally takes a jeep, a motor cycle, or a boat to get to the beaches other tourists cannot reach.

Skiathos covers an area of about 23 square miles, and, with just one dusty and potholed main road, much of the island remains inaccessible. Not that there is very much to see inland anyway, apart from an occasional, sometimes grubby, and usually unremarkable monastery. It is obviously only monks and tourists who have ever indulged in exploration. For the last 150 years, most of the islanders have lived in the island's principal town, also called Skiathos, which these days is what is disapprovingly referred to as commercialized.

There are signs which say "Drink Pepsi" alongside the unreadable signs in Greek, as many bars where records by Sade and ZZ Top are played as bars which play traditional music, more restaurants giving menus in English and German than do not, and more shops selling T-shirts, postcards, and all kinds of ugly little gifts, than sell bread.

In the taverna where the barman, dressed in a "Greek costume", was waving his way through Greek dances between serving drinks, it took the chef, smiling cynically, to point out that "no one was ever wearing that in this part of Greece", though it must have been immediately obvious even to the tourists that Skiathos had not traditionally danced to Rod Stewart's "Do You Think I'm Sexy?" either.

Yet the town, and the island as a whole, never seem anything but very distinctly and characterfully Greek: partly because Greece still offers, as much as anything, an experience of a certain quality of light; partly because Skiathos is in fact largely as it must always have been, its houses still white-washed and the harbour still full of fishing boats; and also because tourism and its manifestations seem to have become the medium for an expression of a national spirit. After all, only what Juvenal called a nation of actors could wring some pathos from traditional dances accompanied not just by the bouzouki, but by a Rod Stewart record as well.

TRAVEL NOTES

Grecian Holidays, Topsfield Parade, London N8 (01-444 3333), offers a selection of holidays in Skiathos and the other islands of the Sporades, with accommodation in villas, apartments or hotels, from £144 for a week, departing from Gatwick and Manchester. Buying a flight only accommodation could probably be easily found on Skiathos throughout most of the year and would cost just a few pounds a night.

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The plain exterior of Leighton House hides rich treasures of an enigmatic artist

A fountain tinkles into a square pool from a single slab of black marble. The walls are covered with wonderfully patterned tiles, and above them are mosaics, arched recesses and a high, painted dome. The Arab Hall at Leighton House is nothing if not an aesthetic feast. The eye can roam in any direction and find fantastic flowers, beasts, foliage, intense colour, the intricacy of Arab calligraphy and the dull glitter of gold leaf.

It is a Victorian dream of Araby, but surprisingly authentic too. Lord Leighton, eminent Victorian artist and "High Priest of the cult of Eclectic Beauty", had travelled in the East and knew his stuff. Many of the tiles are genuine and old — 17th, 16th, even 13th century — and the intricate metalwork grilles are from Damascus.

This spectacular interior is the more astonishing for being contained in a house so externally plain. Viewed from the road, Leighton House looks much less showy than most in this Victorian artist's quarter. Leighton's palace of



Deceptive delights: 'The House Beautiful', with its back turned resolutely on the outside

art — "the House Beautiful" as he and his circle called it — was inward-looking, a consciously artificial environment, with its back resolutely on the world outside.

Leighton's architect was George Aitchison, and together they worked on the house for 30 years, right up to Leighton's death in 1886. The artist was then heaped with honours, notably the Presidency of the Royal Academy, and firmly established as the greatest of the classical Vic-

torian painters. But he was also a man of immense cultivation and social poise, a brilliant linguist, well travelled and very much an all-round aesthete. His house was designed as an expression of the abundance and variety of his connoisseurship, a setting against which he could display both his works and his tastes.

It was also Leighton's workplace. There is a huge studio upstairs with a tall north-facing window and a door to the back stairs for the use of servants, models and — such

were Leighton's patrician attitudes — dealers. "I never enter into discussion about my pictures with gentlemen like yourselves," he would tell the dealers. "I have given you my terms — that is quite enough!"

Leighton House today is the end product of a lot of careful restoration. The recent work has been sensitive and scholarly. In the dining room, for example, a fragment of the original wallpaper was found to have survived under a gas bracket, and this was copied to re-paper the room. The walls of

the drawing room were described in their time as being "the colour of the tobacco of a good cigar", and so they are in the reconstruction.

Even if Leighton House were not such an extraordinary setting, it would still be worth visiting just to see the collection of paintings. Fine specimens of High Victorian painting hang everywhere — not just by Leighton himself but by Burne Jones, Alma-Tadema, Millais, Waterhouse and others — to say nothing of sculptures and copies and drawings. The Arab Hall itself owes much to the work of Edward de Morgan, whose intense blue tiles are everywhere, of Walter Crane, who did the mosaic frieze, Randolph Caldecott, who designed the capitals of the pillars, and Sir Edgar Boehm, who carved them.

Leighton House has two additional galleries used for temporary exhibitions, concerts and lectures. But it is first and foremost Lord Leighton's creation, a monument to a whole way of seeing, feeling and seeking out beauty.

Nigel Andrew

Leighton House, 12 Holland Park Road, London W14 (01-602 3316). Open Mon-Sat, 11am-5pm (11am-6pm Mon-Fri during exhibitions). Closed bank holidays.

OUTINGS

HOLIDAY ON ICE: A 2½ hour skating and musical spectacle, ideal for children. Wembley Arena, Wembley, Middlesex (01-902 1234). From Tues. Adults £2.50-£3, children half price.

PRACTICAL WOODWORKING EXHIBITION: Trade stands, 50 craft stands, demonstrations of marquetry, wood carving and wood sculpting. Wembley Conference Centre, Empire Way, Wembley, Middlesex (01-902 8833). Today 10am-7pm, tomorrow 10am-6pm. Adult £3.50, child under 14 £2.

VICTORIAN MILITARY FAIR: Includes regimental music, war games, regimental museums displaying a wide range of items. Also 32 stalls. Victory Services Club, 63-79 Seymour Street, London W2 (01-723 4474). Today 10.30am-4.30pm. Adult £1, child 50p.

SOANE AND AFTER: Exhibition commemorating the 150th anniversary of the death of the architect Sir John Soane. Dulwich Picture Gallery, College Road, London SE21 (01-693 5254). Wed-Mar 1, Tues-Sat 10am-1pm, 2-5pm; Sun 2-5pm. Adult 60p, child free.

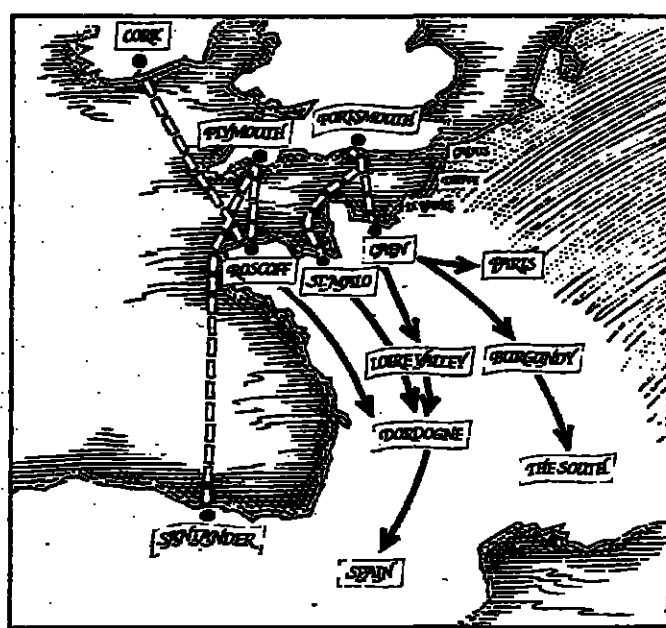
WEST LONDON ANTIQUES FAIR: Quality antique fair with 90 stands, mostly adhering to pre-1870 date limits. Kensington Town Hall, Cornhill Street, London W8 (01-837 5464). Today 11am-8pm, tomorrow 11am-6pm. Adult £2, child free.

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THE TIMES COOK

Don't get stuck in the kitchen during the party, says Shona Crawford Poole

Make time for rabbit

Theory is one thing, the practice, as often as not, quite another. Entertaining at home is supposed to be for giving pleasure to friends and for enjoying their company. In the event it is very easy to become so involved with the food that other considerations take second place.

It is the keenest cook who is most likely to set this trap and then fall into it. Instead of relying on salami or smoked fish for an instant first course, and something from the freezer or pitisserie for pudding, enthusiasts find themselves cooking every course of a working week-day dinner party on the night. Not that it cannot be done. It can, at a price. The cost is the company of the person doing the cooking, who may be present in body but with a sauce or soufflé in mind.

Over-doing the menu is a snare I have caught myself in so often that my resolution for 1987 is to resist the temptation to show off, to remind myself that restaurants are the places to go for many small courses which can only be made the moment before they are served, and for dishes that are spoiled by reheating.

Cold food is a weak area in my repertoire. When thinking of what to give guests I find myself dismissing some of the best things we eat by ourselves, the indoor picnics of cold roast meat, poultry or game served with stovies, rösti, sautéed or baked potatoes and a green or tomato salad. I forget that cold duck or goose has an even better flavour than the same bird served hot.

Almost instant soups, cream of cauliflower or onion and potato, are elbowed off the menu by time-consuming consommés which are a joy to make at a leisurely pace, and much less fun in a hurry.

So what would you be offered at my table if you came to dinner in the next couple of weeks? There will certainly be something hot to start with. If it is soup then it will probably be a recipe from the new Penguin edition of Elizabeth David's *French Provincial Cooking* which I am working through at the moment. Or, if I've been to Soho, then fresh pasta - ricotta and spinach ravioli (which freezes perfectly) or tagliatelli from Camilla's in Old Compton Street. The ravioli will be boiled in chicken stock and served in wide Victorian soup plates with a pat of butter, a shower of Camilla's best Parmesan and a smidgen of freshly grated nutmeg.

To follow there might be a choice of cold meats, a pie or a



Clara Leachford

terrine. I always offer hot potatoes of some kind with cold meat dishes because they bring out the flavour of the meat so well. The jelly rabbit terrine packed with large chunks of tender rabbit and winter vegetables would be made a day or two earlier.

As well as potatoes there will be salads, whatever is best in the market, and hot bread, probably half-baked bread finished at home. Cheese will be one large piece of whichever kind looks in its prime.

And if I stick to my resolution, there will probably be no pudding as such. Just grapes or apples with the cheese, and a chocolate with a choice of fresh or decaffeinated coffee to finish.

The cream of cauliflower soup from *French Provincial Cooking* is remarkably well flavoured and satisfying. Note that it contains no pepper.

Cream of cauliflower soup
Serves six
1 medium cauliflower
Salt
1 litre (1½ pints) light stock
150ml (¼ pint) milk
110g (4oz) butter
4 egg yolks

Separate the cauliflower head into pieces and steam, or boil them in salted water, until soft. Drain. Purée the cauliflower in a processor or pass it through a sieve.

Add the purée to the stock. Bring it slowly to the boil and

simmer for 15 minutes. Off the heat, stir in the milk, followed by the butter, stirring as it melts.

To finish, beat the yolks with half a glass of water and add them to the soup, heating it gently but without letting it boil so that the yolks thicken the soup to a cream. Add salt to taste.

Cream of cauliflower soup can be made in advance and reheated so long as it is warmed gently and not allowed to boil, which would curdle it. It might be wiser to make it in advance only up to the point at which the yolks are added, and finish it just before serving.

The terrine of rabbit needs three rabbits. At this time of year they will be hunch rabbits and should be ideally tender.

Terrine of rabbit
Serves six
3 young rabbits
30g (1oz) butter
55g (2oz) smoked bacon, sliced
110g (4oz) chopped carrots
55g (2oz) chopped shallots
55g (2oz) chopped celery
2 cloves garlic
Bouquet garni of bay, thyme and orange peel
2 pigs' trotters, split and blanched
150ml (¼ pint) red wine vinegar
150ml (¼ pint) dry white wine
Salt and freshly ground black pepper
To finish

170g (6oz) small carrots
170g (6oz) slender leeks
110g (4oz) peeled parsnips
Fresh lemon juice
8 tablespoons freshly chopped parsley

Divide the rabbits into saddles and legs. Cut the meat off the saddles in one thick strip down each side of the spine. Cut the main meat muscles from the back legs. Set these pieces aside.

Chop the front legs and saddle bones. Heat the butter in a large, heavy pan and add the diced bacon. Cook it gently until the fat begins to run, then add all the rabbit bones and front legs, the chopped vegetables and garlic and let them sweat for few minutes without browning.

Add the bouquet garni and trotters and pour in the vinegar. On a high heat reduce the liquid to a couple of tablespoons. Add the wine and reduce the liquid again to about two tablespoons. Pour in cold water to cover and bring the stock slowly to the boil. Skim carefully and simmer very slowly until the trotters are falling apart. The stock should be quite clear if it is cooked gently enough.

Remove and cool the trotters. Strain the stock through a double thickness of damp muslin into a clean pan. Poach the reserved rabbit meat lightly in the stock until it is just cooked. It may be slightly

pink in the middle. Drain and cool.

Strain the stock again through muslin and reduce it to about 900ml (1½ pints). Season the stock quite highly remembering that the seasoning will fade a little as it cools to a jelly.

To prepare the vegetables, cook them separately in boiling salted water until just tender. Refresh them in cold water and dry them.

To assemble the terrine choose a plain white bowl or loaf-shaped terrine. Cut the rabbit meat and vegetables into bite-sized pieces. Chop the pigs' trotters in fine dice.

Pour a little of the stock into the base of the terrine, and layer the meat and vegetables with the stock, refrigerating the bowl after each addition to set the jelly. Mix the chopped trotters with the parsley for the final layer. Leave to set and serve from the bowl or terrine with a spoon.

Baked slices of tinned rosti make an elegant, fast potato dish when time is short. Chill the tin before opening it to ensure that the contents slice neatly. Cut the slices no more than 1cm (½ inch) thick and set them on a non-stick baking sheet. Bake them, without additional fat, for 15 to 20 minutes in a preheated moderately hot oven (200°C/400°F, gas mark 6). The underside will probably be better browned than the top. Serve with a fish slice.

At this point I was just about ready to leave when our first courses arrived. While the front of house is a tissue of ganache and gestures to a mercifully dying "youth

You can tell just how far up in the world Kilburn in north-west London has come by the fact that it no longer exists. Its residents are convinced (by estate agents, very likely) that they live in Brondesbury, Queen's Park, West Hampstead, Maida Vale - anywhere that does not suggest stout by the gallon or professionally maulin showbands crooning ballads of Tipperary.

Well, for the moment the old Kilburn does still show itself in the great big palaces of the High Road, the snooker halls and the Hibernian social clubs. But it is being expanded of its staid and low rooming houses, and sooner or later will disappear from the map the way that Hatcham - the suburb between New Cross and Peckham - vanished in the 1950s.

The new Brondesbury and West Hampstead are already colonizing the High Road with delis, computer showrooms, upmarket fishmongers and a cosmopolitan complement of cheapish restaurants catering for mortgage-conscious customers - there's an Ethiopian place, four good Indian ones, a Vietnamese café, and a remarkably cheap Franco-Yugoslav bistro, La Cloche.

The most recent victory for this "alternative" embourgeoisement is the Billboard Café, which sits uncomfortably opposite one of the great bastions of old Kilburn, a massive 1890s public house called Biddy Mulligan's.

It doesn't promise much. The facade is all glass and venetian blinds. I guess the virtuous panels can be slid back in summer to allow diners the opportunity to eat al fresco or al fumo - this is a fine site for those who are proud to be able to distinguish Foden exhaust from Dennis exhaust. When I arrived it was empty and the waitress was musing along to a very loud pop song. A few minutes later it was full and she was still at it, aiming for and attaining high definition vacancy.

The place had filled with a number of 30 to 40-year-old middle-class persons of the sort who use "middle class" as a depreciation and who demonstrate their egalitarianism by refusing to wear ties or skirts. It's no wonder that they flock here for it is decoratively *fascia-naïf*, painted in deep infantile pastels, hung with paintings in a comic book manner, and littered with exposed service pipes.

The short menu arrived with a list of cocktails bearing names designed to make you wince. The cocktails themselves, a couple of margaritas, were all right, though a bit wasn't - look, the trick, such as it is, is not to fill the glass with wine before you pour in the Ribena.

At this point I was just about ready to leave when our first courses arrived. While the front of house is a tissue of ganache and gestures to a mercifully dying "youth

Continental cooking in Kilburn and

Japanese food in the heart of Mayfair.

Jonathan Meades samples them both

"culture", the kitchen gets it right.

There is a marked gap between the gracelessness of the one and the absolute professionalism of the other. You have to ask several times for a knife and fork and still wait, yet a large plateful of bressana is dressed with lemon, the finest olive oil, fat capers and slivers of fresh Parmesan - absolutely correct.

The carbonara sauce for papardelle was not correct, but

of the cheeses, which are victims of hypothermia.

A full meal for two with wine is unlikely to cost more than £23, though a full meal with wine and cocktails will set you back a lot more. The solution is, no doubt, to forgo cocktails and make up for it with a post-prandial Jamesons.

Mimiya, not the cheapest of Japanese restaurants, but you pay the extra for the lack of grease in the frying and lack of anything in the design, so minimal that it might just vanish.

There is a lot of folkloric ritual someone arrives with a tray of little pottery sake cups so that we may choose our own. Such preciousness recurs in the presentation of the dishes. But does raw salmon, served on a china dish that looks like a model of a machine tool, taste any better



Billboard Café: glass, venetian blinds and exposed pipes

the cooking is so assured that I suspect the addition of peas to the panettone (emphatically not English bacon), cream and egg yolk was a deliberate twist rather than a dumb solecism.

Anyway, it was good. And so was a salad of spinach, crumbled egg, pine nuts, good oil again and balsamic vinegar. One of the few vinegars worth using.

And so it went on: a 10-minute wait for a napkin, a quite delicious and massively portioned dish of three char-grilled lamb chops done to a proper pinkness and accompanied by carrots and courgettes that had been browned after cooking. Decent coffee delivered before sweets, excellent bread and very generously priced wine.

A 1980 Gattinara, a blowy Piedmontese soup. The only faults that can be levelled at the kitchen are a slightly too bland dolcelatte sauce and the state

than raw salmon eaten on a river bank? Even the slivers of vegetable and rubbery fish cake and pieces of chicken in a thin broth are sculpted.

Despite its fussy appearance, the food here is good. We had fried rice, deliciously fondant aubergines, a dish of salmon grilled with salt that remains this side of desecration, a surprisingly tasty broth of green tea and sour, dried plums. To end with there is a green tea ice-cream or a red bean ice-cream - the former is the one to order. Two will pay just over £70.

Billboard Café, 222 Kilburn High Road NW6 (01-228 1374). Open Mon-Sat, noon-3pm and 7pm-12.45am. Closed Sun. Mimiya, 38 Clarence Street, London W1 (01-499 2443). Open Mon-Sat 12.30pm-2.30pm, 6.30pm-10.30pm.

DRINK

Pouring doubt on a red and rising star

Jane MacQuitty in praise of an Englishman of distinction but less enthusiastic about an acclaimed arrival from Spain

John Armit does not look the part of a leading British claret buyer. His emaciated, and somewhat demonic, image is one I suspect that he does not encourage. But, wayward or not, John Armit is one of the best wine men we have.

I first came across him about four years ago when I was editing the *Which? Wine Guide*. His brilliant and beautifully written wine catalogues for Corney & Barrow were a pleasure to read, just as they are today, and shone out from the pile of a thousand dreary wine lists that had to be assessed every year for the guide.

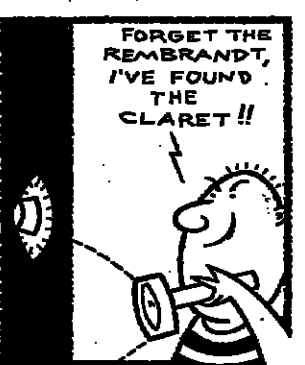
Claret is obviously John Armit's first love, as is perhaps to be expected from a man who started his wine career in Corney's cellars in 1962, becoming their managing director just seven years later.

One of Armit's greatest achievements is his association with, and promotion of, the Moueix family's impressive array of Pomerols, including the revered Pétrus. Given the stratospheric prices that Pétrus, and some of the other Moueix Pomerols, fetch, it is hard to believe that in the 1960s this right bank commune was not as well-known or as highly prized as it is now. By 1977, John Armit had semi-retired and was living

abroad. He is now based in Madrid. He still buys wine and writes Corney's lists and he visits London regularly to oversee his own firm of wine merchants, John Armit Wine Investments, at 190 Kensington Park Road, London W11.

Given his current home, it is not surprising that Spanish wines are increasingly becoming an Armit specialty and I was intrigued to spot that the latest Armit-penned wine offer from Corney & Barrow is an exclusively Spanish one. Even more intriguing was its evocative description of Pétrus's blacksmith, Alejandro Fernandez, whose '75 Reserva is billed by Armit as "the finest red wine I have come across in Spain".

The trade both here and in America has been buzzing about Pétrus for the last year or so, all of which made me anxious to taste the wine



and to find out what all the fuss was about. Sadly, if the bottles I tasted are typical of the Pétrus style, the publicity is rather more impressive than the wines themselves.

The '83 Pétrus certainly had a wonderful rich, full, spicy cedarwood nose, but its chunky powerful tannic palate needs time to develop and is

earlier than I would like from a wine priced at £8.05. Similarly, the rich, plummy '75 Reserva that I tasted had an awkward spritz, almost volatile, aspect to it, backed up by an immense cedary-caky palate that in my opinion did not justify its £17.25 price tag.

It could just have been a disappointing bottle, of course, and I should no doubt reserve judgement on Pétrus until I have tasted the much vaunted '82 vintage. (Corney's Pétrus offer closes on January 30 and orders are for complete cases only; contact Corney & Barrow at 12 Helmet Row, London EC1.)

No one, however, would dispute the quality of the long list of '82 Pomerols currently available at John Armit Wine Investments. For as John Armit put it "the '82 vintage as a whole is magnificent; in

the Médoc it's the best vintage since 1961 and in Pomerol it's the best in living memory. Jean-Pierre Moueix says it's better than the legendary '47 and I am not going to argue with that."

Last November, John Armit held a fascinating blind tasting of a dozen '82 Pomerols. Pétrus '82, priced at more than £200 a bottle, was understandably not in the line-up, but all those other right bank Moueix luminaries were.

Joint first in my opinion were the seductive, soft floral Trotanoy (£48.75) and the wonderful, scented, elegant Certan de May (£34.50). Joint third was the rich, firm La Fleur Pétrus (£25.16) and the gutsy, herbaceous Certan Graud.

Next in line came four wines that I thought had little to choose between them: the smoky La Conseillante, the beefy Latour à Pomerol (£25.16), the rich but dumb Vieux Château Certan plus the lively celery-redolent La Grave Trigan de Boisset (£15). On to the positive roasted La Fleur (£24.16) chased by the bricky L'Evangelie (£26) and the plummy Gazin (£10.83). In last place and not recommended is the stringy Le Gay (£14.33).

Jane MacQuitty

Christmas Quiz winners

The six winners of *The Times* Christmas Quiz, who each receive a case of Moot and Chandon Dry Imperial 1981 vintage champagne worth £182, are:

Mr T. Luard, Great Percy,

Street, London, WC1; Mr C. H. Turner, Eldon Grove, Beverly Road, Hill; Mrs S. Lloyd, Duck Island, Duffield, Derbyshire; C. Pagan, Orde Hall Street, London, WC1; A. McLeod, Cowley Road, London, E11; and Mr C. J. R. Meyer,

Hazlewell Road, London, SW15

The answers to the quiz are published below:

1. c; 2. d; 3. b; 4. c; 5. b; 6. b; 7. b; 8. c; 9. d; 10. c; 11. a; 12. d; 13. d; 14. d; 15. d; 16. b; 17. d; 18. d; 19. c; 20. b; 21. c; 22. c; 23. d; 24. d; 25. b; 26. c; 27. c; 28. d; 29. d; 30. b; 31. c; 32. b; 33. d; 34. b; 35. b; 36. c; 37. d; 38. c; 39. b; 40. d; 41. d; 42. a; 43. c; 44. b; 45. a; 46. c; 47. a; 48. d; 49. a; A. b; B. d; C. d; D. b; E. f; F. g; G. d; H. d.

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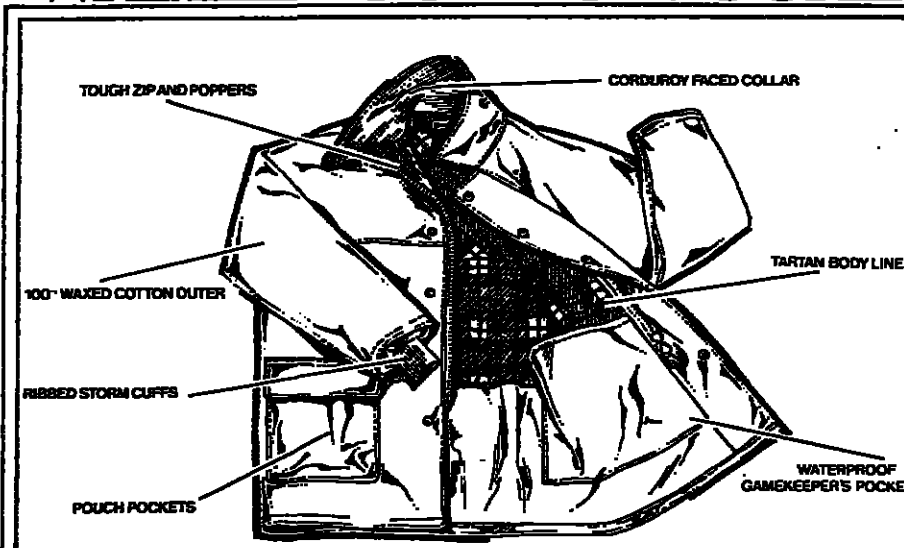
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THE ARTS

A heart of soap

Tammy Wynette, as we all know, likes to stand by her man — in song at least. *Arena's* entertaining film (BBC2) about the "First Lady of Country Music" revealed four D.I.V.O.R.C.E.S. (she was the first in her family to do it, if not spell it out). She also had her first husband removed like a disgraced Iron Curtain politician from a photograph in which he was standing by her and their children.

The best story, though, was about her teaming up with fellow singer George Jones. While Tammy was rowing with husband two or three, Jones came into the house, told him that was no way to treat the lady he loved and whisked her and her children off into the night, never to return. No wonder Miss Wynette, who comes across as an intelligent, humorous woman, says her whole life has been "a soap opera". And just in case the "Heroine of Heart

TELEVISION

Break" feels short of emotional suds, she moonlights as a waitress in a TV soap.

The unfortunate wife of the murderer, Avon farmer, whose crimes were reconstructed in *Indelible Evidence* (BBC2), was not able to stand by her man when he blew up her legs in his car and pretended that it was part of a hate campaign against him. Sometimes, as Tammy would say, it's hard to be a woman. This new series, which pays homage to forensic scientists, combines real coppers and bobbies who play themselves and actors as the murderers and victims who, not surprisingly, are otherwise engaged. Judging from the first programme, the mix works well, not least because policemen mumble less morosely these days in front of the camera. Drama documentary, however, is not without its dangers. Names have been changed (thought the sensational case will still be familiar to many) but the programme rode rough shod over narrative ground rules when it at first dramatized the farmer's false account of one death as though it was true. And some scenes seemed to have been acted out only for their violence.

Andrew Hislop

Imagine a BBC decision not to renew Wogan's contract — or that of any Irish star — and you have the plot of Terence de Vere White's entertaining new novel. He talked to Nicholas Shakespeare

Gift of the gab — and the blarney

Opening his door in Kentish Town, Terence de Vere White spots the postman. So does his little dog, which leaps forward with a harmless snarl. "Saved your life," says De Vere White pleasantly, restraining his animal. The postman delivers a bundle and moves on, ungratefully. Shutting the dog behind the door on which his wife has stuck a yellow label ("Terence — have you got your key?"), he follows up the hill at a discreet distance.

"I think I'm handicapped by an inability to cash in on the Irish thing," he says as he walks. He wears a pink and green bow-tie and the expression of a melancholy leprechaun. He is talking of his 26th book, a novel called *Chai-Show* (Gollancz, £9.95) which mischievously examines the phenomenon of the Irish Murphy on our screens and airwaves. Having read it in proof, Frank Delaney has gamely written to say he is now afraid to look behind him or into his pocket. His quote decorates the cover.

"I'm filled with sheer wonderment at how this Irish quality, whatever it is, gives a passport into English entertainment — an English invasion of Ireland would be impossible. No one seems to want to challenge their authority," he continues of men like Wogan, Kelly, Clare and Andrews. "If a High Provost is talking and the subject of Greek literature is raised, he is so obviously pleased to be on television that, far from being the one in authority, he magically isn't. The enormous importance attached to personality is such that he will go as near as possible to suddenly showing his knickers. You couldn't even trust royals not to show off — and certainly not the bench of bishops."

Squeezing into the small, empty restaurant, he remembers with a

charming glow his own appearance on the Gay Byrne show. "I was quite a success, but there was no future for me. My voice falls between all stools. In Ireland I sound and look like a defrocked clergyman, which is not surprising since the amount of Church of Ireland blood in me is nobody's business. And as a very young boy," he adds, picking the wax off a bottle with a candle in it, "I always fell for the person's daughter."

He was born in 1912, in a house that was to be taken over by Jack Yeats, in a Dublin that was far more like the Northern Ireland of today. "You knew a person's religion by the way they behaved on Sunday afternoons, by the shops they visited."

His mother was Catholic; his father, a solicitor on the Irish railways, a Protestant. "I had a background of violence which made me a pessimist. I expect disaster. Am I gloomy? On the whole, yes — and appallingly introspective." The violence he alludes to was that of a nation giving birth to itself — as a toddler he accompanied his nurse to give food to the English Tommy during the 1916 uprising — as well as that of domestic tragedy. His elder brother died of septicemia after being kicked in the groin at prep school; his younger drowned in the Liffey. Then, when he was 15, his father suddenly expired in the back of a taxi.

"Everything shut down when he died. I was terribly anxious to go on stage. Instead I went to work in a solicitor's office for a colleague of my father who said I could take over the business when I qualified." When he did so, after signing an agreement that he would not steal stamps and would keep out of brothels (and after simultaneously studying at Trinity College, Dublin), the lawyer — "a terribly



Terence de Vere White: "filled with sheer wonderment at how the Irish quality gives a passport into English entertainment"

plausible man" — said he was sorry, he could not keep his promise, he had made the offer without going into details.

The last words of De Vere White's grandfather — a man he said much to resemble — were "You can't have this and that". Until he was 49, however, he made energetic attempts to do so. Eventually taking over a small practice connected with landed estates and embassies, he also began riding to hounds — and writing. One influence was his aunt, George Egerton ("intolerably

loquacious", Shaw called her), who had contributed to *The Yellow Book*. Another was Compton Mackenzie. "He was very, very good to me. I remember sitting with my tongue hanging out as he confessed in his charming voice, as if I was the only person in the world, that he had fallen in love at first sight, he had felt an immediate conviction in Catholicism and he had conceived a whole work of art in a flash."

Novels, biographies, reviews tumbled elegantly forth in tandem

with his legal work until the day in his fiftieth year when he was offered the literary editorship of the *Irish Times*. "Of all the things I've done, that was the only decision I never questioned. In giving up the law, although it meant a total drop in salary, I felt honest for the first time. Yet we talk as if the options were always open. When the *Irish Times* took me on, I was an established Dublin figure, on arts panels, taking my hat off in the street, known by name in the shops. I proceeded backwards. Most writers begin poor and after a struggle finally end up on the parish council. I started on the parish council and then became a writer."

It was in looking for a particular reviewer that he met his second wife, the biographer Victoria Glendinning — married at that time to the Professor of Spanish at Trinity.

When his job ended at the *Irish Times* and Victoria returned to London, he left his family and followed her, selling his collection of Irish paintings to finance life in a city where he could not wave at people right and left in the street. As a good decision, it ranks close behind his giving up the law. As a move from fame to obscurity, it is also the opposite of what happens to his hero in *Chai-Show*.

Asked to give the worst comment made about his work, Terence de Vere White has no trouble in producing "garrulous telegraphese" — for his biography of Tom Moore. His favourite, for his delightful memoir *A Fretful Midge*, "this is not about life — this is life itself". Covering one side of his face with a long hand, he admits "I'm proud of none, because I feel guilty they're not better, but I think I have a tiny humorous gift."

As we talk, the leprechaun has retreated before the gentle, introspective man of letters. It is a man who recalls his friendship with Henry Moore and Jack Yeats and his belief, instilled in him by Victoria Glendinning, that there are no great men — that people do some things quite well, but if you got to know them better...

Then suddenly he says: "I'll tell you a marvellous thing. I once met a lady I'd been in love with when I had short trousers. She greeted me most affectionately, but I drew back and said 'You wrote to my first wife, saying you were on her side, but there was no side to be on'. His face creases in silent laughter, like the folds on his bright bow-tie. "Oh Terence," she said, "but I didn't know your address."

Rich and honest

May/Cooper
Elizabeth Hall

It would be, I think, impossible not to warm to Maribus May's cello playing. Despite his cherubic looks, he has been around for a long time, and in fact the pains of starting his career very young have probably helped to propel him towards his obvious musical maturity now.

Such maturity is evident in his refreshingly unaffected approach to his art. There are no visual airs and graces, and if, for instance, he slips in a lavish *portamento*, as he did here on occasion, it is never a gesture that draws attention to himself at the expense of the music. It is put there simply because he feels it fits. And his honesty shines through in the quality of his sound, too.

Not for him the sickly gloss of some, but instead a total

CONCERT

pallet that unashamedly reminds one of the elements that produce, and shape it, the horse hair, the gut, and the wood.

Unsurprisingly for this musician, he chose honest and thought-provoking music and provided himself with an honest and thoughtful, if slightly reticent, pianist in Imogen Cooper. In Beethoven's C major Sonata, Op 102, no 1, they journeyed willingly through the composer's own heaven and hell, projecting its wildness in a performance that took discipline and technical assurance only as its starting point.

Mendelssohn's D major Cello Sonata, Op 58, Schumann's *Fünf Stücke im Volkston*, Op 102, and Janáček's captivating *Pohádka* all demanded, and were treated to, a wide range of emotional responses, without, of course, ever quite attaining the profundity of the Beethoven sonata. Technically they were no easy ride either, but May's beautifully sustained lines, his effortless changes of left-hand position, and his impressively secure bowing arm all helped pave the way to richly rewarding performances.

Stephen Pettitt

True beauties of simplicity

DANCE

David Bintley's *Allegri Diversi*, premiered by Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet, is probably the simplest ballet he has yet made, the most sustained in dance invention, the most successful in achieving what he meant to do.

If one holds back from saying outright that it is his best work to date, that is only because in other ballets he has aimed at something more ambitious. And yet, is there anything more ambitious a choreographer can do than create beautiful dances to good music?

This work is set to two short scores which Rossini wrote while a teenaged student at Bologna, both of them sets of variations for clarinet with a small orchestra. Both pieces are remarkably assured in their fluent, melodic invention and their instrumental

colour, especially the virtuoso treatment of the wind instruments. They have a romantic flavour to their slow introductions and a high-spirited brilliance in their development. There is, throughout, a quality that reveals Rossini's operatic affinities, and it is an equivalent cantabile spirit that makes Bintley's choreography so attractive.

Bintley has chosen also to create variations in the musical sense as well as the solo balletic meaning of solo dances, each of the many solos develops and varies a group of steps, all of them related to the theme of turning and jumping.

The ballet is for a cast of six. A simple, companionable dance of changing partners in a ring brings them together in the introduction, and a more elaborate version of this forms the close.

Otherwise, the Variations of 1809 are arranged for four of the dancers in successive solos. Sandra Madgwick is the most accomplished, making her complex sequences exhilaratingly clear and bright, but one of the company's newest recruits, Anne Little, also proves both lively and able. Iain Webb and Kevin O'Hare bring refinement as well as robust energy to their contributions.

The Introduction Theme and Variations of 1810 are arranged mainly for Karen Donovan and Pether Jacobsson. Their duet to the andante opening is fluent and relaxed, giving way to solos full of speed, virtuosity and wit, once the music speeds up.

Bintley treats the music with an easy freedom and familiarity, sometimes to an initially disconcerting degree (in Donovan's first solo, for instance), but by making his dancers perform through the long phrases rather than to the beat, he probably ensures sustained interest as the work grows more familiar.

Another new work, Jennifer Jackson's *One By Nine*, claims to be about the muses and an artist. It offers abstract, tirelessly fussy steps, adroitly related to the surface patterns of some Vivaldi concertos, in front of obtrusively self-important designs by Deanna Petherbridge. A hard-working cast makes little of it. The programme includes the recent revival of *Peter and the Wolf*, well led by Marion Tait and Christopher Gable, and a disastrously underdanced, underplayed account of *Checkmate*.

John Percival



Joanna Scanlan as the fleshy, ostrich-plumed stepmother (right) and Katherine Dow-Blyton

Images of lost dreams

It is a tendency of the creative imagination in old age to narrow into autobiography, and attempt a final squaring of accounts with the personal fears and long-dead companions.

Sometimes this process proves the culmination of a life's work. All too often, the effect of dragging the skeletons into the light of day robs them of their former potency, and such is the case with this late Ionesco piece.

Journeys Among the Dead is at once a dream play and a series of imaginary encounters in the underworld of memory. This scheme offers rich possibilities for combining dream logic with conscious enactment; not to mention the chance of playing all kinds of theatrical jokes with time.

For these elements to coalesce, however, demands a degree of energy higher than anything Ionesco has been able to summon up. And as the pilgrimage of the hero, Jean, unfolds from his first meeting with his youthful grandfather, dream and mem-

THEATRE

Journeys among the Dead
Riverside

ory increasingly fall into unrelated compartments.

Far from escaping the usual boundaries of chronological time, the action is laid out so as to show Jean ageing from a despondent would-be writer to a neglected has-been.

That is one running thread. The other consists of his quest for his lost mother. One can imagine the kind of ritualistic parable Ionesco might have extracted from this at the time of *Rhinoceros*. As he handles it here, it has no poetic resonance.

It appears that Jean's barrier father deserted his wife in favour of a grasping stepmother while spending regular nights off with a gypsy girl. The father evidently tried to buy his way into his son's

affection; but to no avail, judging by the repeated scenes in which Jean, as an eminent author, returns to impress his contemptuous parent only to find that his collected works have shrivelled to an exercise book of childish scribbles.

That is one of the better scenes. What remains hard to swallow is the sight of Jean on one hand confessing his sense of worthlessness and on the other ascribing all the guilt to his family.

Stuart Wood directs with heavy reliance on hallucinatory side-lighting and sardonic dance music. The company, made up largely of former National Student Drama Festival players, generally catch the grotesque idiom, but without the necessary emotional or vocal resources. Joanna Scanlan makes a fine, fleshy, ostrich-plumed stepmother; and Mark Sproston keeps Jean doggedly on course up to his final interminable tirade of gibberish.

Irving Wardle

dissect himself. After a bout with his rival, the vain, flamboyant Michelangelo, da Vinci begins his fresco, *The Last Supper*. Against an enormous rectangle of light, Mowat is painter, Christ and disciples.

Where Mowat's Leonardo has emerged from love and respect, his second piece, *America*, is a flip, cynical collage of Yankee values. Less well structured and less well characterized than *Leonardo*, *America* snipes at easy targets: media fantasy, violence, frenzy, and over-indulgence.

By presenting fundamentally negative images, Mowat makes simplistic what is both politically and culturally much more complex.

Beth Porter

Soggy, soulless nostalgia

ROCK

Womack & Womack
Royal Albert Hall

celebration of the collective talent of this auspicious soul dynasty, it was a disaster. To his eternal credit Bobby Womack stayed at home.

The evening began with the exhumation of the Valentinos, now down to Curtis, Friendly and Harry Womack, who in the Fifties, along with Cecil and the absent Bobby, were the original band that launched the Womacks' career. The singers performed cocktail snatches of a few old hits like "Looking for a Love" and "It's all Over Now". As a pointer to the R & B gospel and doo wop roots of the family it was fine, and they harmonized with careful clan, but the presentation of the

show as a potted history lesson and the insipid playing of the Womack backing band effectively emasculated the performance.

Cecil and Linda (who as the daughter of Sam Cooke is only related by marriage) promised a better performance. Despite their excellent harmony singing when it came, as on the languorous, smoochy chorus of "Eyes", Cecil quickly got bogged down in an endless succession of raps and cheer-leading exchanges with the audience that effectively defused the musical excitement. "Baby I'm scared of You", "Express Myself" and "Soul Love/Soul Man" were the worst examples of a formula that left the band vamping aimlessly, seemingly for longer than it spent playing the sequence of the songs. The stage invasion which followed threw into comic relief an evening that was high on nostalgic corn but lacking in musical backbone.

David Sinclair

Keeping a book on books

PUBLISHING

So where do these 56 per cent get their books from? Well, 35 per cent actually bought them, against 33 per cent who borrowed them from libraries and 17 per cent who borrowed them from someone else (and, though this is not included in the statistics, almost certainly forgot to return them). Nine per cent received their books as gifts, while four per cent read those they already had at home. And two per cent, who presumably acquired theirs while under the influence of alcohol, just could not remember where they had got them.

Perhaps, and more surprisingly, there is not a lot of variation in the way that different classes get their books. You might think that senior dons, lawyers and the rich (or whoever make up the AB segment of our society) buy more than blue-collar workers, but the gap is comparatively small: 35 per cent of classes A and B bought their books, while 30 per cent of the workers (DE) did exactly the same.

Ah, the sociologists among

you will be murmuring, but the north/south divide will be far more startling. And it is, but not in the way you think: 37 per cent of Londoners bought their books, but so did 43 per cent of those who live in Lancashire, while Scotland, at 38 per cent, matches exactly the South of England.

Another myth that we can explode is the one about women being the real book-buyers. They are not, though they are heavy borrowers. Men bought 43 per cent of the books as against women's 30 per cent, while the latter borrowed 37 per cent from public libraries as against the male 28 per cent.

It is equally fascinating that more than half the people who enter a bookshop leave without making a purchase at all, while half of the half who do buy something came in without any specific title in mind in the first place.

On the borrowing side we took more than 500 million books out of UK public libraries, of which more than 60 per cent were fiction. Non-fiction stands around 23 per cent, while children's books top 15 per cent.

All in all we are not a very bookish nation and slowly becoming less so. Before people actually start throwing books away to make room for the second computer and third video (percentages unknown), I must do a round, of my friends and reclaim all those I have lent over the years. I shall let you know the relevant statistics in due course.

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REVIEW

Eye for an eye

BOOKS IN BRIEF

The Tenth Man by Graham Greene (Penguin, £1.95)

In a prison in occupied France one in every 10 hostages is to be shot. The men decide to draw lots; and the rich, land-owning lawyer, Louis Chavel, picks a marked paper.

Hysterical with panic, fear, and a sense of injustice, he offers to barter everything he owns for someone to take his place. His fellow prisoners explode with impatience and woe; but a thin, quiet clerk, known by his companions as Janvier, agrees.

At the end of the war Chavel returns home, the decaying symbol of his former financial glory, where the wife and sister of the dead tenth man have made their uncomfortable home, waiting revenge.

Typically full of psychological obsession and tricks of perspective, this short story plays games with the concepts of identity and freedom. Threaded through with paranoia attempts to be sure of time, life, and death, the story ends with a tragedy and a travesty, with a revenge and a redress, truth and the ultimate lie.

Sapphira and the Slave Girl by Willa Cather (Virago, £3.95)

Despite dropsy and exile to a wheelchair, Sapphira Doddridge, Colburn, presides over her Back Creek property and household with vigilant resolution.

When she overhears gossip about the young maid Nancy's infatuation with her husband, she determines to clip the wings of love's young, and as it turns out innocent, passion.

But as her desire for control is obstructed by the irreproachability of Nancy and the freedom-fighting of her own daughter, the belligerent campaign of this impressive, if unsympathetic, woman becomes malicious.

The powerful understatement of this semi-autobiographical book, with its Virginia Woolf details of time and setting, powerfully conveys a sense of imaginative retrospection.

It is this emotional involvement of the author, foregrounded at the end of the book, that creates a liltingly equivocal tone and a sense of shifting allegiances. The vitality of the book comes from this ambiguous relation of author to story as she captures a sense of what is paradoxically both a nostalgic revisit and a critical assessment of a past imperfect.

Progress of Stories by Laura Riding (Carcanet, £5.95)

After working your way through turgid and practically unreadable prefaces, the diligence of the committed reader is rewarded by some interesting and thought-provoking tales.

The best stories in this high-brow ragbag are those the author herself describes as unequivocally unimportant; still-life studies in character.

Later sections, the "experiences of a managed imagination", profess to investigate the art of storytelling, and the imaginative process of reading. Disruptive and difficult they require a concentration and patience that often seem to be undeserved.

Sabine Durrant

Libel: the lawyer's paradise

Public Scandal, Odium and Contempt by David Hooper (Coronet, £2.95)

PAPERBACKS

A libel action is a toy that allows the rich to sue the rich, with the proceeds being trussed by the legal profession. It has little to do with justice or principle, and any connection between a libel suit and its supposed aim of protecting a person's reputation is largely fortuitous.

Those who require the protection of the law when their good name is traduced do not get it. They are ordinary people in ordinary jobs living in ordinary communities.

Lies spread about them can have the most awful consequences. They can lose their jobs, their marriages disintegrate and, perhaps most important, their standing in their own small slice of society can be destroyed.

The legal system cares little for them. Legal aid is not available for defamation; and none but the very well-off can afford to finance High Court litigation out of their own pocket.

It's not surprising, therefore, that David Hooper's entertaining examination of libel cases reads like the guest list at one of the parties that gossip columns delight in

'The reality is that the libel against Maxwell received a hundred times more publicity by its exposure in court than ever it did in *Private Eye*'

reporting. Isn't that Evelyn Waugh in the corner talking to Michael Foot? And surely that's Shirley Temple having a girl-to-girl chat with Edwina Mountbatten and Lady Dicker? What, Randolph Churchill and Harold Laski quarrelling again? Still, the music's good, with Liberate at the piano.

The exploits of all these libel plaintiffs, and dozens more, equally glittering, leave one with a taste of the absurd and the unreal. Did Liberate suffer deep personal anguish when the *Daily Mirror's* Cassandra very unfairly described him as a "winking, giggling, chromium-plated, scent-impregnated, luminous, quivering, giggling, fruit-flavoured, mincing ice-covered heap of



Singalong with Liberate: Evelyn Waugh, Michael Foot, Shirley Temple, Lady Dicker, Randolph Churchill and Harold Laski with the maestro at the piano

Mother Love."? And did Telly Savalas, who plays Kojak, lose his public's esteem because the *Daily Mail* wrongly accused him of leading a wild night-life and being late on the film set?

Robert Maxwell's action against *Private Eye* has to

await the next edition of Hooper's book, but it raises all the issues. We are expected to believe that *Private Eye* readers, who previously thought highly of Mr Maxwell, read and believed the relevant item, changed their minds, and now consider him not

such a good fellow after all. That, in theory, is what the jury's verdict and their award of £5,000 meant. The reality is that the libel against Maxwell received a hundred times more publicity by its exposure in court than ever it did in the organ. The sting was in the

jury's £50,000 exemplary damages — the fine on *Private Eye* for being especially naughty — and the costs that have to be borne by the losing party.

The case, like many libel actions, was more about punishing the defendant than restoring the plaintiff's damaged reputation.

Hooper's account (well-written, considering he's a lawyer and not a writer) exposes, too, quite how exaggeratedly sensitive and silly people can be when convinced they have been defamed. A minority, Evelyn Waugh among them, were happy to be libelled, for the easy money to be made.

There is probably a need for some machinery to allow people to correct harmful lies about them. The sheer accumulation of absurdities, injustices, and anomalies that permeates the court cases described by Hooper provides ample evidence that our current libel laws and procedures have virtually no qualifications for being that machinery.

It is curious that having provided so much ammunition for the abolitionists Hooper, in his short conclusion, proves not to be among them.

Marcel Berlins

Over the moon about Jekyll and Hyde band

ROCK RECORDS

Los Lobos: By the Light of the Moon (Slash SLAP13) Hisker Ditt Warehouse: Songs and Stories (Warner Brothers 92553-1-1)

The Kinks: Think Visual (London LONLP27) Taxi Gang Featuring Sly & Robbie: Taxi Connection Live in London (Mango ILPS 9862)

With imperious disdain for whatever competition may have emerged since the release of their last album two years ago, Los Lobos open *By the Light of the Moon* with three crackling songs that show as much to respect the Los Angeles Chicano group's presence in the American roots rock circuit.

"One Time One Night" is a languid country/R&B shuffle, "In This All There Is" sketches a moody, disillusioned lyric motif, and "Shakin' Shakin' Shakin'" layers a southern boogie beat with shimmering chords and an instrumental tail section that gives full reign to the sounds of burly men playing Stratocaster guitars with feral ferocity.

This rock of activity over, they don acoustic guitar, accordion and mandolin, and hop effortlessly into the waltz time of "Tremala del Alma" which is sung in impeccable Spanish, with its rolling around like tumblers across a baked Mexican landscape.

The strange Jekyll and Hyde contrast between Los Lobos's road-hardened band persona and the slick campfire traditionalism of their mellower moments creates an unusual tension in the group's portfolio, which becomes further confused on this album by the inclusion of an elegant, Tamla Motown pas-

sage, "Set Me Free (Reza Lee)" and an organ-led soul ballad "Tears of God", neither of which strikes a convincing note.

The elements of blues, soul and country coalesce better on "All I Wanted to Do Was Dance" where the close-knit harmonies vie with splashes of accordion, while both "The Hardest Thing" and "My Baby's Gone", a 12-bar that pits Eric Clapton to shame, confirm their position as brand leaders in an over-populated market.

Warehouse: Songs and Stories is a double album that finds the second Hisker Ditt band continuing to write fresh, light, throw-away pop tunes which are then pulverized by over-loaded guitar instrumentation and wilfully immature arrangements that either sparkle with ingenuity or topple into the pits of musical illiteracy.

On "Charity, Chastity, Prudence And Hope", Greg Norton plays a monotone bass line against an incompatible guitar chord sequence; the result is not clever or different, but merely wrong. Grant Hart is a dreadfully scrappy drummer, and Bob Mould still selects the guitar sound likely to be favoured by a musical delinquent plugging in for the first time and anxious to find out how loud the thing will play before the vowels burst.

But there are guns sparking in the mix. "Could You Be The One?" and "Standing In The Rain" blend pop and rock in the kind of attractive, air-dried fashion that Roy Wood used to achieve with The Move. "She Floated Away" subjects a folk tune to the pile-driver approach with compelling results, and the high-volume psychedelic streak that runs throughout comes to fruition on "No



Los Lobos: equally at home with blues, soul or country music

Reservations", a song which echoes all sorts of odd, unplaceable Sixties riffs. Despite these moments, four sides on the trot is a bruising experience.

Ray Davies knows how to pen a pop tune, but the latest Kinks collection Think Visual finds him in a rather jaded mood of introspection, querying among other things whether life as a rock star is any less of a production-line job than "Working At The Factory". Dave Davies weighs in with "Back to Back Cities" where a lukewarm Chuck Berry/Keith Richards riff is fuelled by a complaining litany of American locations that these poor chaps are forced to visit in the course of their work, topped off with the observation that "the pretty girls (are) getting younger every year".

I'm sure we all sympathize, but unless they can come up with something a little more original and vital than Think Visual such grief could all be over sooner than they think. For despite the odd touch of poignant brilliance as on the light "Lost and Found", this is a rather quaint and mandarin album.

Taxi Connection Live in London was recorded at the Town and Country club last month and provides a handy snapshot of the current reggae scene, with performances by the old guard (Yellowman) and the young guns (Ziggy Marley and Half Pint), all welded together by the indefatigable rhythm section of Robbie Shakespeare (bass) and Sly Dunbar (drums).

For all the talk of a new "ragamuffin" movement, the album reveals, if anything, how peculiarly resistant to change reggae is. Half Pint and Marley's music may be best more sophisticated arrangements than that of their predecessors, but, in fact, it is only Yellowman's unusually fast "Reggae Calypso" that goes any way towards breaking the familiar chuk-chuk mould.

David Sinclair

Capturing the opera magic

CLASSICAL RECORDS

Handel, Alcina, Auger, Jones, Kuhlmann, Harry, City of London Baroque Sinfonia/Hickox. EMI EX27 0368 5 (4 cassettes, also black discs and CDs)

It is certainly possible to detect that this classy recording of Handel's perhaps most celebrated "magic" opera came straight into the EMI studios from the stage. Or rather, from the nave: this is in essence the Frank Corsaro production presented at Christ Church, Spitalfields during the Handel tercentenary by The Opera Stage.

The recitatives, for instance, move with a fluidity and necessary brusqueness which indicates that these singers are fully alive to the plot's twists and turns, which are considerable.

Alcina is a sexy but decidedly difficult character, a kind of reverse Prospero who creates the illusion of paradise on a barren island, seduces naive young men on it, and proceeds to turn them into stones, trees, or whatever else her landscape seems short of.

The witless Ruggiero is about to undergo this unedifying transfiguration; luckily his girlfriend, the spunky Bradamante, arrives to save him. Unfortunately she is dressed as a man, and this introduces some complicated transsexual manoeuvres.

The characters all have considerable psychological interest and, in general, this cast grasps their dramatic opportunities vividly. In the title role Arleen Auger is happier breathing seductive sighs and curling a gorgeous, light legato tone around some ravishing high-lying ornaments than in

conveying the spitting anger of "Ma quando tornerai". But she makes something rounded, even sympathetic, of this wicked lady, and this contrasts well with Della Jones's superbly assured characterization of the castrato role Ruggiero.

She charts the character's gradual realization that happiness with Alcina is literally an illusion with a parallel darkening of timbre. In this process the famous "Veni prete" stands exactly halfway between the two extremes.

Ruggiero realizes the paradise is false, but cannot yet rid his mind of its allure — and here Jones experiments with a thicker, contralto-like tone that is dramatically effective if not always successful technically.

Kathleen Kuhlmann characterizes the doctory Bradamante ideally, cutting through the low runs with mercurial precision and security. Eiddwen Harry sounds a trifle effusive and naturally for Morgana, Alcina's lightweight sister, but Patricia Kwella makes the right boyish sounds as the young nobleman Oberto.

I doubt, though, whether Handel's boy treble would have attempted the bravura ornamentations added to "Tra speme" by Kwella. Malwyn Davies and John Tomlinson sing dutifully in uninteresting minor parts; small contributions from the "Opera Stage Chorus" are competent but churchy.

The City of London Baroque Sinfonia sounds excellent. The violin/oboe ritornellos are done with proper bite; there is some stylish solo work from recorders and continuo instruments; and the horns' brief appearance is worth the wait.

Richard Morrison

THE TIMES ARTS DIARY

Orgy at the Octagon

Bolton thespians are moving swiftly into the vanguard of controversial theatre. Following the news that a local group has written a play in which a member of the Royal Family catches Aids, Bolton Octagon is planning to revive *The Romans in Britain*. You may recall that a National production in 1980 led to a private prosecution by Mrs Whitehouse (later withdrawn) over a homosexual rape scene.

Octagon's artistic director John Adams is unperturbed: "It is a very fascinating play. I think it needs a reassessment." He says Mrs Whitehouse is aware of his plans to stage it in the autumn, and understands she will not interfere this time.

● A Bangor artist has been acclaimed in the Welsh Arts Council magazine for creating "non-permanent, immediate art in response to a situation". Apparently he took advantage of heavy rain at the last National Eisteddfod to make a relief map of Wales out of mud and straw.

Hitch for Hitch

I hear that aspirations by Alfred Hitchcock to film a Graham Greene novel were frustrated by the author. In today's Radio 4 programme, *Dilys Powell's History of the British Cinema*, Greene says he found Hitchcock "far too tricky", and felt he ruined *The Thirty Nine Steps* with tricks that detracted from the continuity of the story.



Hitchcock and Greene

"He (Hitchcock) announced that he had bought a book of mine, *Our Man in Havana*. He had not bought it. In fact I had given directions that any offer from him should be refused, as I didn't want his tricks introduced into a book that was already a bit tricky," Greene adds, superfluously: "He rather resented my criticisms."

Sum mistake?

Government plans on future spending on the arts contain two columns of identical figures for 1988/89 and 89/90 — but different totals. The discrepancy is £10 million. My mole in the corridors of power explains it is due to "rounding off" figures to the nearest million or so. He adds: "I'm sure it's a device by the Treasury to prevent journalists from deducing the precise figures." Can this be true?

Bus stop

Bristol museum is dismayed by a new EEC directive requiring any post-1947 vehicle capable of carrying over 16 people to have a tachograph. A prized omnibus in its collection is thereby prohibited from lawfully attending rallies. It is urging other museums with similar exhibits to protest.

Gavin Bell

BRIDGE

Ready for risks on the double

the declarer, with no danger of confusing West.

Even without the double this contract would have failed, but the double, combined with a tight defence, produced a useful 500 penalty.

Suppose you hold this hand, as West.

You listen as the opponents bid as follows:

W N E S

W N E S

At first glance, East's double appears speculative, but consider the factors which favour aggressive action. Without a double it is a pound to a penny that West will lead a diamond, surrendering a tempo and probably a trick. The opponents' bidding is limited, South to 16 points, North to 9, so East knows his partner must have at least 9 points. Lastly the double may well confuse

Most experienced rubber bridge players would do the right thing on both those hands. My final example even provoked raised eyebrows from a consistent winner who happened to be watching.

Rubber Bridge. Love all East-West + 60. Dealer South.

W N E S

W N E S

(1) I must say I like to play that any opening bid at 500 points (or more) is forcing to game.

(2) The danger that East-West will overcall with a diamond suit to North-South must be measured against the virtual certainty that North has a useful hand with diamonds.

(3) An overcall.

(4) Such an overcall is made on.

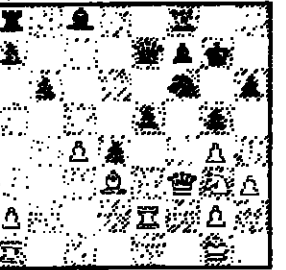
(5) South knows that the diamond break will prove favourable, and that East-West have probably overestimated in any case.

When the smoke cleared, South's opportunism had garnered 500 points out of this air.

Jeremy Flint

CHESS

Naturally winning the silver



Board after White's move 25

12 Qa4 and White ultimately won.

White obviously plans to pile up along the f-file.

To discourage Black from playing ...0-0-0.

Pure Kasparov. The Qd1 retreat was used by him in game 7 v Karpov, 1985 match; Game 18 1986 Match and in the afore-mentioned game v Miles. The Queen move stops ...Nh5 and further prepares Q3.

Declining the pawn. An alternative is 9 ... Nxc3 10 bxc3 Bxc3 11 Rcl Bb4 12 h4. Kasparov-Miles, Dubai Olympiad varied with 9 ... Nxc3 10 hxc3 Bf8? 11 f4 Bg7

This may be playable, but the

65 square looks suspiciously exposed.

More sensible is 17... Ne8 followed by ...Ng7 protecting f5.

A powerful move, to which Black should probably react with Ljutan's suggested ...h5 23 gxf5 g4.

Certainly not this, which overlooks White's 25th.

Foiling Black's idea which lay in 25 Qxh8 Bxg4 with obscure complications.

The threat is Qxf6 and Nh5+.

White's pressure is overwhelming.

If 26... c4 then 27 Bxe4 Nxe4 28 Rxc4 is devastating. 27 Qxf6+ Qxf6 28 Nh5+ Kh8 29 Rxf6 exd3 also looks great for White but is less clear.

Very neat. 29 Nf6+ Kg7 30 Qe4 Rh8 31 Nh5+ also wins, but 30... Qxf6 31 Rxf6 Kxf6 32 Qxe3+ Kg6 resists somewhat.

Black resigns.

Raymond Keene

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1158

Prizes of the New Collins Thesaurus will be given for the first two correct solutions opened on Thursday, January 22, 1986. Entries should be addressed to The Times Concise Crossword Competition, 1 Pennington Street, London, E1 9XN. The winners and solution will be announced on Saturday, January 24, 1986.

ACROSS													
1	Be on guard (6)	2	Large-scale (9)	3	Ten dollar coin (5)	4	Big (5)	5	Manuscript (5)	6	Fundamental (5)	7	Power (5)
8	Quarrel (5)	9	Quarrel (5)	10	Quarrel (5)	11	Quarrel (5)	12	Quarrel (5)	13	Quarrel (5)	14	Quarrel (5)
15	Marmalade fruit (6)	16	Minor difficulty (6)	17	Driver's alcohol test (12)	18	Blatant (8)	19	Quarrel (5)	20	Quarrel (5)	21	Quarrel (5)
22	Quarrel (5)	23	Quarrel (5)	24	Quarrel (5)	25	Quarrel (5)	26	Quarrel (5)	27	Quarrel (5)	28	Quarrel (5)
29	Quarrel (5)	30	Quarrel (5)	31	Quarrel (5)	32	Quarrel (5)	33	Quarrel (5)	34	Quarrel (5)	35	Quarrel (5)
DOWN													
1	Lie in warmth (4)	2	Large-scale (9)	3	Ten dollar coin (5)	4	Big (5)	5	Manuscript (5)	6	Fundamental (5)	7	Power (5)
8	Quarrel (5)	9	Quarrel (5)	10	Quarrel (5)	11	Quarrel (5)	12	Quarrel (5)	13	Quarrel (5)	14	Quarrel (5)
15	Marmalade fruit (6)	16	Minor difficulty (6)	17	Driver's alcohol test (12)	18	Blatant (8)	19	Quarrel (5)	20	Quarrel (5)	21	Quarrel (5)
22	Quarrel (5)	23	Quarrel (5)	24	Quarrel (5)	25	Quarrel (5)	26	Quarrel (5)	27	Quarrel (5)	28	Quarrel (5)
29	Quarrel (5)	30	Quarrel (5)	31	Quarrel (5)	32	Quarrel (5)	33	Quarrel (5)	34	Quarrel (5)	35	Quarrel (5)

SOLUTION TO NO 1157

ACROSS: 1 Henley 4 Nelson 7 Norm 9 Freight 11 Beach 12 Letters 13 Bassoon 14 Bassoon 15 Bassoon 16 Bassoon 17 Bassoon 18 Bassoon 19 Bassoon 20 Bassoon 21 Bassoon 22 Bassoon 23 Bassoon 24 Bassoon 25 Bassoon 26 Bassoon 27 Bassoon 28 Bassoon 29 Bassoon 30 Bassoon 31 Bassoon 32 Bassoon 33 Bassoon 34 Bassoon 35 Bassoon

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The winners of prize concise No 1157 are: Mrs M. Jones, Channel View Cliff Road, Wembley, Plymouth, Devon; and Mrs Edith McKillop, Wellbourn Terrace, Aberdeen.

SOLUTION TO NO 1152 (last Saturday's prize concise)

ACROSS: 1 Module 4 Wherry 7 Fane 8 Hyacinth 9 Unsuspecting 10 Untold 11 Dwindle 12 Pyrotechnics 13 Scot-free 14 Undo 15 Sapient 16 Aspect 17 Temptuous 18 Delineator 19 Ethos 20 Waste 21 Event 22 Reign 23 Unit 24 Unit 25 Unit 26 Unit 27 Unit 28 Unit 29 Unit 30 Unit 31 Unit 32 Unit 33 Unit 34 Unit 35 Unit

Name _____ Address _____

THE WEEK AHEAD



ROCK

SMOOTH SOUL: Freddie Jackson is the latest of the new breed of American soul stars who are reasserting the traditional values of quality ballad singing and reaping huge sales. Like Alexander O'Neal and Teddy Pendergrass before him, Jackson is a smooth, urbane "ladies man", whose hit album *Rock Me Tonight* and *Just Like The First Time* promise a UK debut of glossy seduction. Manchester Apollo (061 273 3775), Thursday; Hammersmith Odeon, London W6 (01-748 4081), Friday for four nights.



CONCERTS

FIRE FAREWELL: Peter Maxwell Davies, knighted in the New Year honours, says goodbye to The Fires of London, the ensemble which has given the world premieres of many of his works. Because of the pressure of Davies's other commitments, the ensemble is being disbanded. Its final concert, under his baton, includes two more new pieces, *Winterfold* and his re-working of Dowland's *Farewell*, and a staged performance of *Songs for a Mad King*. Queen Elizabeth Hall (01-928 3191), Tuesday, 7.45pm.



TELEVISION

ON THE RUM: Joanne Whalley was the pretty Nurse Mills tending to Michael Gambon in *The Singing Detective* and before that Bob Peck's murdered daughter in *Edge of Darkness*. She is not only a face that gets noticed but a young actress of cool intelligence. In *Will You Love Me Tomorrow* she has her biggest television part to date, co-starring with Tilly Vosburgh in a tale of two girls who abscond from an open prison and hitch a lift to a north Wales seaside resort. BBC2, tomorrow, 10.10-11.35pm.



RADIO

HOLY WARRIOR: Richard 1 of England, known as the Lionheart, at his Coronation in 1190. Soon afterwards he set out for Palestine and the series of adventures which made up the Third Crusade. In an eight-part series, *The Cross and the Crescent*, Malcolm Billings and the historian, Professor Jonathan Riley-Smith, offer a modern perspective on the Crusades, drawing on the most recent research and suggesting that the crusading ideal persisted well after the Middle Ages. Radio 4, Wednesday, 7.45-8.15pm.



THEATRE

IN TANDEM: Ken Loach made his name on television as the director of *Cathy Come Home* and went on to establish a fruitful partnership with the writer, Jim Allen, that produced *Days of Hope*, a powerful and committed panorama of working class Britain in the 1920s. Their collaboration has now been revived for the theatre, with Loach directing Allen's play, *Perdition*, which explores the tragic dilemma of Jews during the Second World War. Royal Court Theatre Upstairs (01-730 1745), from Thursday.



GALLERIES

BALLET MASTER: Edgar Degas (seen in a self-portrait from 1857) is famous for his paintings of dancers, horse racing and café life. Less well known are his sculptures, drawings and portraits. He is often regarded as an impressionist, although he rarely painted in the open air and never worked quickly, preferring to base his paintings on preparatory sketches. *The Private Degas* is a loan exhibition designed to show all facets of his art. Whitworth Art Gallery, Oxford Road, Manchester (061 273 4865), from Tuesday.

ROCK

FAIRPORT CONVENTION: With various members from early line-ups, the folk-rock stalwarts continue a tour itinerary that reaches the parts most groups haven't heard of. Tonight, Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa (0526 34418); tomorrow, Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton (0902 714775); Tues, Octagon Theatre, Sheffield (0742 753300); Wed, Aylesbury Civic Centre (0296 86009); Thurs, International Club, Manchester (061 224 5050); Fri, The Superdome, Morecambe (0524 419419).

THE DAVE HOWARD SINGERS: Confusing name for a solo act, but Howard, a manic Canadian on Acetone organ, vocal and beatbox creates enough raucous post-punk noise to compensate for the lack of a band. Splendid version of David Essex's "Rock On". Tues, Riverside, Newcastle (091 261 4386); Wed, The Richmond, Brighton (0273 603974).

ROBYN HITCHCOCK AND THE EGYPTIANS: Formerly of the Soft Boys, Hitchcock's music is a bizarre patchwork of born-again psychedelia and eccentric garage-band bluster. Tues, The Majestic, Reading (0734 586093); Fri, Princess Charlotte, Leicester (0533 553956).

JULIAN COPE: His erratic output since the demise of The Teardrop Explodes has stabilized with the success of "World Shut Your Mouth" and the current single "Trampolene". Wed, Leicester University (0533 522522); Thurs, University of East Anglia, Norwich (0603 505401); Fri, Westminster Central Hall, London SW1 (01-222 8010).

ELVIS COSTELLO AND THE ATTRAXIONS: Back to another stint after his superb showcase at The Royal in November. Thurs for three nights, Royal Albert Hall, London SW7 (01-589 8212).

JAZZ

THE JAZZ LEADERS: An all-star group whose members are band leaders. They are some of the best mainstream modern musicians who came up in the 1970s, and include Lester Bowie, trumpeter with the Art Ensemble of Chicago, alto saxophonist Arthur Blythe and on tenor, Chico Freeman. Mon-Fri 2, Ronnie Scott's Club, 47 Friar Street, London W1 (01-439 0747).

GALLERIES

OPENINGS

BRUCE NAUMAN: Retrospective of a versatile American artist, little shown in Britain, but best known for making strident neon signs. Whitechapel Art Gallery, Whitechapel Lane, London E1 (01-377 5015) from Fri.

JOCK MACFADYEN: Humorous narrative paintings, involving caricature, cartoon and satire, which send up everyday life and behaviour. City Museum and Art Gallery, Chamberlain Square, Birmingham (021 235 2834) from today.

JOHN MOORES: The 15th biennial exhibition of paintings selected from an open submission, with prestigious prizes for some. Previous winners include Hoyland, Caulfield and Walker. Walker Art Gallery, William Brown Street, Liverpool (051 227 5234) from Wed.

SELECTED

BRITISH ART IN THE 20TH CENTURY: Blockbuster survey comprising 300 works by 70 artists covering the period 1910-1975. Royal Academy of Arts, Piccadilly, London W1 (01-734 9052).

RODIN: The full range of the great sculptor's sensuous art is shown, including the monumental bronze depicting Balzac. Hayward Gallery, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3144).

DIRECTOR'S CHOICE: Sir Michael Levey selects 35

FILMS ON TV

PATHER PANCHALI (1955): Impressive debut of India's leading director Satyajit Ray, charting a boy's painful growth to manhood in a Bengal village. BBC2, today, 9.55-midnight.

THE GREAT GATSBY (1974): Jack Clayton's visually polished but dramatically tepid version of the Scott Fitzgerald Jazz Age novel, with Robert Redford and Mia Farrow. Channel 4, Mon, 8.30-11pm.

YILMAZ GÜNEY: Turkey's most distinguished director, whose films are banned in his own country, died in exile in Paris in 1984. A Channel 4 documentary (Wed, 9-10pm), made by Jane Cousins-Mills and narrated by Julie Christie, is followed by the showing of his 1979 film, *The Herd* (10pm-12.25am), which launches a short Güney season.

THE VOYAGE OF THE DAWN TREADER: Adaptation, by the same team as that responsible for the current production of *The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe*, of another C. S. Lewis novel for children. London premiere. Sadler's Wells (01-278 8916). Opens Tues. Until Feb 14.

THE HOUSE OF BERNARDA ALBA: Glenda Jackson and Joan Plowright star in Lorca's harrowing drama of sexual

PRINCIPALIA SCRIPTORIAE: Richard Nelson's powerful account of two writers tortured in Central America and what became of them. Barbican (01-828 8795).

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THEATRE

OPENINGS

THE CID: Cheek By Jowl Company's British premiere production of David Bryer's version of the 17th-century classic by Corneille, joins the company's same-cast *Twelfth Night* for a London season. Donmar Warehouse (01-240 8230). Opens Mon.

ROAD: Return, prior to a national tour, of Jim Cartwright's study of a bleak small town in Lancashire. Simon Curtis directs a cast now including Ian Dury, Susan Brown, Mollie Smith. From today performance. Royal Court (01-730 1745). From Mon.

SCHOOL FOR WIVES: Di Trevis directs the Mollie comedy in a translation by Robert David MacDonald, with David Ryall, Celia Imrie, Julia Ford, Roger Lloyd Pack, Neil Dudgeon, Anthony Trent. Lyttelton (01-828 2252). Previews from Fri. in repertory.

THE VOYAGE OF THE DAWN TREADER: Adaptation, by the same team as that responsible for the current production of *The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe*, of another C. S. Lewis novel for children. London premiere. Sadler's Wells (01-278 8916). Opens Tues. Until Feb 14.

SELECTED

I'M NOT RAPPAPOORT: Paul Scofield as the uncontrollably inventive Central Park-bench philosopher in Herb Gardner's well-made, touching play. Apollo (01-437 2653).

PRINCIPALIA SCRIPTORIAE: Richard Nelson's powerful account of two writers tortured in Central America and what became of them. Barbican (01-828 8795).

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OUT OF TOWN

SIEGFRIED SASSOON: Peter Baskerville's one-man show leaves important areas of the poet's life unveiled but builds to some affecting climaxes. Hampstead (01-722 9301).

BRISTOL: Mirandolina:

Premiere of Adrian Mitchell's translation of an 18th-century comedy, by Carlo Goldoni. New Vic (0272 24388). Opens Thurs.

EDINBURGH: The Hypochondriac: Hector MacMillan has translated the Molière comedy into Scots rather than Standard English and it will be directed by Gerry Mulgrew and John Matthews. Royal Lyceum (031 229 0877). Free preview Thurs, opens Fri.

GUILDFORD: Court in the Act: Gabrielle Drake, Michael Denison, Lee Montague, Terence Wilton, directed by Graham Murray, in the 1912 French farce successfully presented at the Royal Exchange, Manchester last July. Yvonne Arnaud (0483 60191). Opens Wed.

SHEFFIELD: Here We Go: World premiere of a farce by Andy de la Tour, directed by Mike Kay, set during the 1984 miners' strike in South Yorkshire. Crucible Studio (0742 769922). Preview Wed, opens Thurs.

PHOTOGRAPHY

APPROACHES TO DOCUMENTARY: An exhibition celebrating the 10th anniversary of a gallery which has consistently commissioned and purchased documentary work, much from local photographers. Includes work by Chris Killip, John Davies, Bruce Rae and Sirkka Lisa Kontinen. Side Gallery, 9 Side, Newcastle upon Tyne (0532 322206).



On the murder trail: Christian Slater as the novice and Sean Connery as William of Baskerville in *The Name of the Rose*

Making history in a monastery

In the space during the opening credits where old films used to say "Co-starring Gilbert Roland" or "With Marge and Gower Champion", *The Name of the Rose* announces itself as "A palimpsest of Umberto Eco's novel". The arcane phrase can be partly justified — the book's plot hinges on medieval manuscripts — though it may not be the best means of wooing audiences. Clearly, this is not a film for *Rambo* fans, and its emergence in the era of carbon-copy, hi-tech cinema is something of an event.

Consider the source material: an erudite, 500-page novel of medieval monastic life, written by a high-flying intellectual, a professor at Bologna University, whose other publications include *A Theory of Semiotics*, *The Aesthetics of Chaosmos*, *The Middle Ages of James Joyce*, and, most recently, *Travels in Hyperreality*. Film rights to all these are still available.

The novel — Eco's first — notched up sales of 4 million, and a further 24 million in translation; its mixture of intellectual debate, poisoned monks and

TELEVISION

TCHAIKOVSKY WEEK: Seven concerts by the BBC Welsh Symphony Orchestra, who play all the symphonies, the Violin Concerto and the Piano Concerto No 1. Each concert introduced by Humphrey Burton and the musicologist H.C. Robbins London. BBC2, from today, 7.25-9pm.

WE CAN KEEP YOU FOREVER: Fourteen years after the Americans officially pulled out of Vietnam, a report on the hundreds of prisoners who remained unaccounted for despite President Nixon's claim, "all our boys are home". BBC1, Wed, 9.30-10.45pm.

BARBICAN CENTRE: Sirk Street, London EC2 (01-628 8795). Tomorrow, 7.30pm.

ESCHENBACH/LPO: Christoph Eschenbach, who then conducts Brahms's Symphony No 2, Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3151). Tues, 7.30pm.

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NIGHT AND DAY:

Twenty-four in the life of London with columnist and connoisseur of lowlife Jeffrey Bernard tracking the day shift and veteran thriller writer Celia Fremlin taking a nighttime walk from Brixton to Hampstead. BBC2, Fri, 9.35-10.30pm.

CONCERTS

HICKOX/SINFONIA: Richard Hickox conducts the City of London Sinfonia in Beethoven's *Fidelio* and Mozart's *Symphony No 29*. Andrew Wattinson solos in Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto, Crispian Steele-Perkins in Hummel's Trumpet Concerto. Barbican Centre, Sirk Street, London EC2 (01-628 8795). Tomorrow, 7.30pm.

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RADIO

DILYS POWELL'S HISTORY OF THE BRITISH CINEMA: Friendly and anecdotal survey by the doyenne of film critics. The first programme (of 13) concentrates on the early Hitchcock, with comments by Michael Powell, David Lean and Graham Greene. Radio 4, today, 2-2.30pm.

THE MAPLE TREE GAME: Play by Czech writer Pavel Kohout about an old professor (Frank Middlemas) who visits a former pupil, now a major in the Secret Service, with unexpected results. Radio 3, Tues, 7.30-9pm.

THE MAKING OF A QUARTET: Daniel Snowman follows the Medici String Quartet through the preparation of a new work and presents a revealing picture of relationships both professional and personal. Radio 4, Tues, 8.30-9.15pm.

AN EVER CLOSER UNION... An assessment of the European Community 30 years after the Treaty of Rome through portraits of Britain's 11 fellow members. Philip Short, the BBC Paris Correspondent, kicks off with a look at France. Radio 4, Thurs, 7.40-9m.

PEGGY SUE GOT MARRIED (15): Coppola's warm, sophisticated time-war comedy, in which Kathleen Turner's troubled man finds herself back at high school. Odeon Leicester Square (01-830 6111).

DOWN BY LAW (15): Jim Jarmusch's successor to *Stranger Than Paradise* — the surreal comic adventures of three misfits who escape from a New Orleans prison. Screen on the Hill (01-435 3366), Gainsborough (01-221 0220).

THE FIRST NEW WAVE: The NFT's wonderful season of French delights from the 1920s proceeds apace with a massive version of *Les Misérables* (today, 2pm). Raymond Bernard's epic *The Chess Players* (Mon), and other rarities. National Film Theatre (01-928 3232).

BOOKINGS

FIRST CHANCE

BOB GELDOF: First solo tour of Britain, opening at the Pavilion, Glasgow (Feb 28), and then touring to Aberdeen (Capitol), Newcastle (City Hall), Nottingham (Royal Centre), Bristol (Colston Hall), Manchester (Apollo), Birmingham (Odeon) and London (Hammersmith Odeon). Tickets from box offices and agencies.

BALLET RAMBERT: In collaboration with Opera North. Celebration of Stravinsky with six concerts coupling composer's works with his contemporaries; plus lunchtime concerts, exhibition, video performance and a seminar. Jan 29-Feb 22. Barbican, Sirk Street, London EC2 (01 638 8891) (01 638 4141 information).

SCOTTISH BALLET: Peter Darrell's *Cinderella*, to Rossini music, is given today at Theatre Royal, Glasgow (041 381 1234), then Tues-Jan 24 at His Majesty's, Aberdeen (0224 638080).

HEAVENLY PURSUITS (15): Tom Conti stars as a remedial teacher in a Glasgow Catholic school anxious for signs of miracles. A whimsical comedy, written and directed by Charles Gormley, with Helen Mirren. Screen-Baker Street (01-835 2772), Cannon Haymarket (01-839 1527), from Fri.

THE NAME OF THE ROSE (18): A vivid political drama set in Central America, inspired by the past adventures of photo-journalist Richard Boyle. With James Woods, James Belushi, Michael Murphy, directed by Oliver Stone. Warner West End (01-439 0791), Screen on the Green (01-226 3520), from Fri.

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ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL
ATTEMPT TO POLICE IDENTITIES, OFFEND

SUNDAY 25th JANUARY 1987 at 7.30pm
ARTHUR KURINSTEIN

CENTENARY CONCERT
In the presence of H.R.H. THE PRINCESS OF WALES
Krzysztof Penderecki
POLISH REQUIEM
First performance in Great Britain

BBC SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA: KRZYSZTOF PENDERECKI
BBC Singers **BBC Symphony Chorus**
 Mariana Nicolesco – Sop. Christine Cairns – Mezzo Sop.
 Wiesław Ochman – Tenor Kurt Rydl – Bass

A ticket to the evening concert in the Royal Festival Hall will entitle you to one free ticket to each of the following, subject to availability:

10am-1pm Royal Festival Hall: Open rehearsal
 Tuesday, 10.11.03, 1.11.03, 8.11.03, 15.11.03, 22.11.03, 29.11.03, 6.12.03, 13.12.03, 20.12.03, 27.12.03

5pm Parson Room: François Ducharme piano recital
Prog. inc. works by Chopin, Schumann and Brahms
5pm Waterloo Room: Documentary films on
Arthur Rubinstein
6.15pm RFH: Penderecki talks to Paul Patterson about
his life and works
Tickets £3, £8, £15 from Royal Festival Hall 92a 3191 Creed Cadey 928 8900
Honorary Management: VICTOR HOCHHAUSER

VICTOR HOCHHAUSER presents at the BARBICAN
 NEXT FRIDAY 23rd JANUARY at 7.45
HANDEL - RACHMANINOV
 ROSSINI - BEETHOVEN

ROSSINI - BEETHOVEN
LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
 Cond: **ANDRE BERNARD** Soloist: **ANTHONY GOLDSTONE**
 Thuring Music for the Royal Fireworks..... **ROSSINI**
 Concerto No. 2..... **HANDEL**
 Symphony No. 6 (Pastoral)..... **RACHMANINOV**
 **BEETHOVEN**
 Tickets from the New Office, Barbican Centre 638 8891/638 8795

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LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
Conductor: CLIVE FAIRBAIRN Soloist: ANDREW HAIGH
Programme: Vaughan Williams: The English Folk Songs, Rossini: The Barber of Seville

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Conductor: Denys Darlow, Leader: Roy Goodman
Thu 8 Jan at 7.30 pm
Wigmore Hall

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SPORTING DIARY

Frances Edmonds
in Australia

Come in No 10

Two weeks after the Test victory that decided the outcome of the series, England manager Peter Lush is disappointed by the silence from London. He had not expected the sort of eulogy that Bob Hawke, Australia's sports fanatic PM, would immediately have dashed off if his lot had won, but at least some slight acknowledgement from high that Gattling and Co. despite the loss of the fifth and final Test, had not done at all badly. There was, belatedly, a message of congratulation from David Owen of the SDP; but nothing from Mrs Thatcher; nothing, even, from Richard Tracey, the sports minister. It is being suggested here that their silence adds a political overtone to the result: if the Tories can't be bothered to seize such an obvious publicity gimmick there will be no election just yet.

Bat and belle

Last Tuesday, the rest day during the Sydney Test, was anything but for England. David Gower, together with Peter Doyle, the restaurateur, and the House of Bollinger, organized an alternative Test match at Doyle's piscatorial palace on the beach at Watson's Bay. Replete with a surfeit of shellfish and talent-levering quantities of the bubbly stuff, the "Bollinger Belles" took on the England squad. There was cheating, verbal abuse and intimidatory shouts from both sides and the four umpires seemed only vaguely conversant with the rules. Commentary was provided by Bob Willis, Norman May and Henry Blofeld (who eventually ended up in the surf complete with camera), and new regulations were introduced to encourage the 22 defenceless belles — comprising socialites, showbiz personalities, a brace of beauty queens and myself as wicket keeper. Joe Bugner, the boxer, was the belles' minder. The scorecard, maintained meticulously by Test veteran Alan Davidson, involved a few controversial dismissals: Gower for verbal abuse. Broad for obstructing a fielder. Slack for molesting an umpire. Everyone ended up being ducked in the sea. The final score, thanks to a 10-1 weighting system in favour of the ladies: Bollinger Belles 250, England Lie-ins 61.

● Vicki Stewart, David Gower's fiancée, has come up with a definition of an optimist: an Australian opening batsman who bothers to put zinc cream on his nose.

In writing

Elton John, who has been appointed honorary mascot to the England team, was clutching two lucky charms when he arrived in Sydney last week for throat surgery: England bowlers Graham Dilley and Phil Edmonds had presented him with their bats. The pop singer met the team in Sydney after their victories over Australia, West Indies and Pakistan in the Benson and Hedges Challenge in Perth. He has been left literally speechless since the successful operation to remove nodules from his vocal cords and had to convey his congratulations by means of a placard. "Great result", it said.

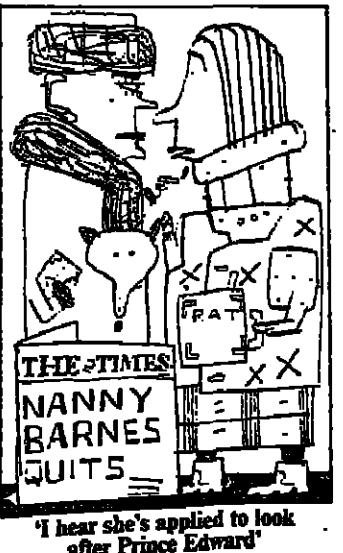
Buddyline

Harold Cudmore, whose White Crusader was eliminated from the America's Cup challenge in Fremantle, has been introduced to the subtleties of cricket. "Bud" Spedding, Cudmore's shore manager and a cricket devotee, has been at pains to explain to the Cork-born Irishman the significance of the names of the syndicate's three dinghies: Bodline, Bouncer and Underarm.

Kiwi-basher

The excellent form of New Zealand's 12-metre fibreglass yachts has caused much jealous anti-Kiwi feeling in Fremantle. It is no secret that at least one of the Australian syndicates would rather lose the cup to Dennis Conner and the San Diego Yacht Club than see it carried off to Auckland. Maybe Conner himself, who in the past has questioned the legitimacy of the "plastic fantastics", started it all. Last week he dismissed a tenacious reporter with: "I have already said, no comment. What are you, stupid? Or are you just from New Zealand?"

BARRY FANTONI



"I hear she's applied to look after Prince Edward"

Mega-takeovers overtaken?

Richard Lander explains how the latest episode in the Guinness affair could put a dampener on City bid fever

Sheer Genius. That's what everyone said — City, shareholders and Distillers employees — during the agreed £2.5 billion merger last year. Yesterday the Guinness shareholders were told that their dividend was cancelled, an almost unprecedented action for a large company trading at a profit.

Before yesterday's announcement, the Guinness-Distillers saga had claimed the positions of three directors — Messrs Roux, Furer and Ward, as well as Ernest Saunders, the chairman and chief executive. It has straddled what is known as Big Bang, and can thus claim joint responsibility for the intensity with which the City is currently being scrutinized by government, Parliament and the public. The outcry over pay packets of more than £100,000 a year for glorified barrow boys and girls has been replaced by outrage over alleged impropriety by officers of one of Britain's best-known companies.

One result is that the City has been forced to think again about the theory and practice of big takeover bids. Guinness did not start this. That was done by the sheer scale of the takeover fever in 1986; but the City has been shocked to find that so much poison could flow from what was, in its own terms, a model merger. Guinness, under Saunders' guidance, had changed from being a slumbering giant — a takeover target itself — to a powerful force

in the drinks and leisure industry. Distillers, Britain's largest spirits textbook case of poor management and slack financial control. The commercial and moral logic — synergy in the vocabulary of the City takeover men — was indisputable.

For Guinness, the takeover consolidated a position in the Scotch whisky market taken the previous year when it bought Bell's. For Distillers, it provided a way out of the unwelcome embrace of the Argyll Group super-market chain.

It seemed to be the perfect match for everyone. But if a dream wedding like this goes wrong, what are the implications for mega-takeovers? Virtually all companies listed on the Stock Exchange were subject to takeover speculation at some time last year. Criteria of size, commercial prospects or management capability could not be counted out to make a company immune from predators.

At the very least it will mean that shareholders in bidding companies will question more rigorously the aims of their board. Common sense suggests that a

takeover must create an enlarged group that is more profitable and in a more favourable position in their particular markets. At a time when the world's stock markets are at record levels, companies are being bought at extraordinarily high prices in relation to their earnings. By contrast they generally have to operate in slow-growing economies that show little sign of accelerating.

Company officers will also face closer scrutiny of the methods they employ during a bid. Guinness has now admitted that it acted illegally in supporting its own share price during the offer for Distillers. If it is probable that others did so too in the past, it is more certain that the law will be more closely observed in future. There is also a strong argument for saying that this extra watchfulness should be reinforced by City legislation that is more rigorous than the present system of self-regulation.

Shareholders in the target company will also cast a more critical eye over the credentials and promises of their prospective executives. They will demand more substance behind the bland assurances of the "synergistic

benefits" often quoted in takeover documents. They will also be more suspicious of the paper currency that is offered to them in the form of the bidding group's shares.

All this should swing the balance of power in bid situations away from the bidder and towards the target. Even if the success ratio does not show a dramatic fall, the numbers getting to the starting block should be reduced by some deeper and more rational thinking among potential bidders.

It is probable, however, that this tendency will be a selective one, with the benefits confined to those target companies which are able to stand up to their predators on the basis of past trading performance, managerial skills and profit potential beyond the immediate term. In one of the City's few forays into the moral high ground last year, institutional investors chose these reasons for backing Woolworth against the advances of its High Street rival, Dixons. There is also a good chance that they will also come to the aid of the Pilkington glass group, which is now the target of the BTR conglomerate.

What is more doubtful is whether other dinosaurs, such as Distillers, would be in any better position to survive in the post-Guinness world. Even today, the attraction of a substantial offer for a poorly-performing share may be enough to help investors ignore more substantive long-term considerations.

George Ayittey looks beyond Botha's curbs to a continent effectively silenced

Truth's fight for freedom

The latest restrictions on the press in South Africa have — justifiably — been given great prominence in Europe and America. They are denounced as yet another blow to individual liberty and freedom of expression. But when, I wonder, will those who protest so loudly turn their attention to the rest of the continent?

With a few honourable exceptions — notably Senegal and Botswana — the press throughout black Africa is under strict government control and serves only the interest of those in power. The least deviation from the "revolutionary path", the slightest allusion to ministerial corruption or the expression of a timidly dissenting opinion invariably brings a harsh reprisal. Thousands of editors, journalists and writers have been imprisoned; some have simply vanished. Here, almost at random, are some examples of what black journalists are up against:

● Nigeria. Dele Giwa, editor-in-chief of *Newswatch*, was killed by a letter bomb on October 9, 1986. The sophisticated nature of the bomb and Dele's encounter with State Security officers shortly before his death led most Nigerians to suspect the government itself. It certainly had a motive: *Newswatch* had earlier interviewed Gloria Okon, said to be a drug courier for the wives of several senior army officers, who died in police custody in Kano in 1985. A lawyer's attempts to prosecute senior officials of the State Security Service are being thwarted by the Lagos State Director of Public Prosecutions.

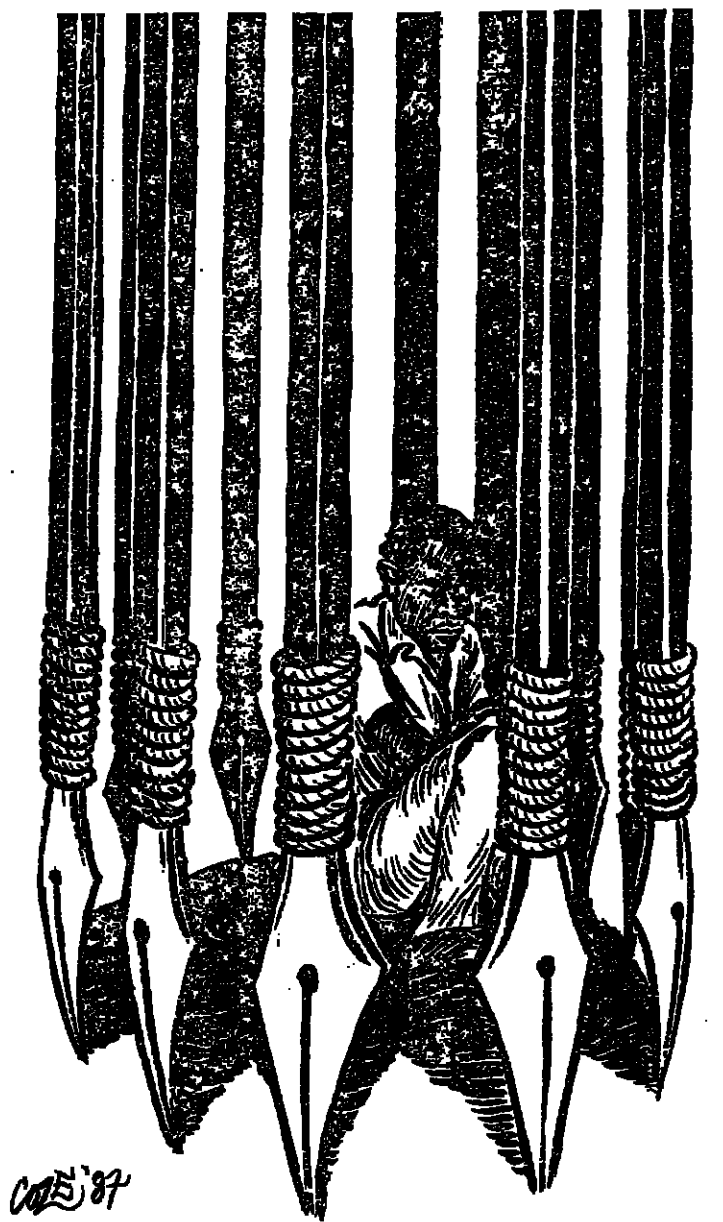
● Malawi. Jonathan Kusumbila, chief editor of *The Daily Times*, and two senior journalists on the Malawi news agency, Sandy Kuwale and Paul Akomenji, have been in jail for more than a year for publishing a statement by President Banda's official hostess, Cecilia Tamanda, that "men cannot do without women" which she later denied.

● Zimbabwe. In 1981 the editor of the *Unimil Post* was dismissed on Robert Mugabe's order after she questioned the presence of North Korean military instructors.

● Cameroon. Officers of the National Documentary Centre, the country's secret police, detained journalists and seized publications it deemed "detrimental to public order." In the 1960s there were 151 newspapers in the Cameroon; today only one.

● Kenya. In March 1986, more than 20 people were arrested in a new wave of detentions without trial under the Preservation of Public Security Act. Among them were Ngatho wa Kariuki, formerly Dean of the Faculty of Commerce at Nairobi University, and Father Joseph Mwangi Rugano, who had distributed pamphlets critical of the government.

● Liberia. The newspaper *Footprints Today* has ceased publica-



tion following threats from the security police. The offices of another newspaper, *The Daily Observer*, were burned down last May, apparently by government agents.

● Ethiopia. Martha Kumsa, who wrote for the Oromo-language newspaper *Barista*, remains detained in Alem Bekagne ("End of the World") prison without trial or charges. She was imprisoned in February 1980 for writing about the rights of the Oromo minority.

● Zaïre. In March 1986, Amnesty International released a report detailing accounts of arrests, torture and extra-judicial executions by soldiers on February 10, 1985. On the same day Tchimala Malembwe, a journalist working for the *Courier d'Afrique* and *Tribune Africaine*, was arrested.

● Ghana. Officially, the government exercises no direct censorship and editors are free to publish whatever is newsworthy. But as Baffour Ankamah, editor of the independent Ghanaian daily, *The Pioneer*, put it: "You publish whatever is newsworthy when you

want to commit suicide." Small newspapers such as *The Believer*, *The Palava Tribune*, *The Punch*, *The Catholic Standard* and *The Free Press* have closed; their editors and publishers have either fled the country or have been imprisoned. In June 1983, Tommy Thompson, publisher of *The Free Press*, and John Kugblenu, the editor, were arrested and detained for a year. Thompson suffered a stroke in detention and Kugblenu died a few weeks after his release in August 1984. Thompson was re-arrested in January 1985, and detained for five months.

In the face of this evidence, some people outside Africa may nevertheless argue that the award of the 1986 Nobel prize to Wole Soyinka, the Nigerian novelist, playwright and poet renowned for his attacks on officialdom, demonstrates that freedom of expression does still exist.

After all, it may be said, he has devoted his life to the cause of liberty and against what he has called "the propensity of human

beings to enslave others". In his *A Play of Giants* he mercilessly mocked — among others — Idi Amin, Emperor Bokassa and President Mobutu of Zaïre. Despite his two-year prison sentence for *Madmen and Specialities*, in which he attacked the Nigerian government's conduct of the Biafran war, he continued — courageously but with apparent impunity — to denounce tyranny, government waste, fraud and abuse of political power.

All that is true, but Soyinka is a special case. For a start, he began writing when repression was only just getting into its stride. And, more to the point, he is greatly respected and has powerful friends in the West. People of Soyinka's stature do not simply disappear in the middle of the night.

Ironically, anxious to share in the reflected glory, the jubilation over Soyinka's award was led by the very despots and dictators who have discouraged African writers, gagged a once free press and done so much to destroy African culture and tradition. Tribal chiefs should have led the crowds; it is not they who rule by the gun and torture chamber; not they who impose alien ideologies on their peasants and force them to salute the portraits of Lenin and Marx; not they who operate Swiss bank accounts.

Throughout Africa one constantly hears the slogans "People's Revolution" and "People's Power". But where is the power of the African people to remove a head of state they do not want? Since 1957 there have been more than 150 heads of state in black Africa. Only six (Obasanjo of Nigeria, Achebe of Cameroon, Dabab of Sudan, Nyerere of Tanzania, Senghor of Senegal and Stevens of Sierra Leone) relinquished power voluntarily; of these, Stevens had ruled for 17 years; Senghor for 20; Achebe for 22 and Nyerere for 24. All the rest were ousted or assassinated in military coups.

True freedom never came to Africa. Its people wanted independence from colonial rule, not to be ruled by another set of aliens or black neo-colonialists. Under their traditional chiefs — in most countries even under colonialism — they were at least free to speak their minds. One set of figures from the International Press Institute illustrates the situation today: in the 1960s there were more than 300 daily newspapers in Africa; now there are fewer than 140, and nine countries have no newspapers at all.

So, when you read of the next inquiry by the Botha government, perhaps you will at least spare a thought for the millions to the north, repressed by their own people in the name of freedom.

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The author, a Ghanaian, is Assistant Professor of Economics at the University of Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania.

Peter Brimelow

'Patrick for President'

New York
"This is America, you damned fool, this is Texas! Any impossible thing can happen here!"

These immortal words were uttered by the BBC's Leonard Parkin to his superiors in London when he refused to believe that his report from the Dallas trial of Jack Ruby, murderer of President Kennedy's assassin, was being interrupted by a jail break — quite unrelated — that hostages had been taken, a woman had begun to have a baby, and...

At this point, Parkin gave up trying to explain, slammed down the telephone in disgust, and went off to have a drink. But London's incredulity was understandable — a typical foreign reaction to this fabulous land's infinite capacity to confound.

Well, another shock may be on the way. In America's well-organized conservative movement — the same much-maligned but undeniably effective faction that produced Ronald Reagan — a new idea is being debated with increasing excitement: that White House communications director Patrick J. Buchanan should run for president in 1988.

The springboard in Buchanan's recent speeches and national television appearances is ferocious defence of Reagan over the Iran affair. Essentially, Buchanan dismisses Washington's favourite topic as a liberal ruse aimed at seizing control of the government. The alleged legal issues are trumped-up technicalities of a sort regularly disregarded by Democratic presidents like Franklin D. Roosevelt, he says, and the behaviour of the Republican Party establishment ("which owes all it has and all it is to Ronald Wilson Reagan") is simple cowardice.

"When a mob shows up in the yard, howling that the head of the household be produced, the sons do not force the Old Man to sit down at a table and write up a list of his 'mistakes'. You start firing from the upper floors."

This of course has appalled the press corps, the *Washington Post's* Colman McCarthy even noting plaintively that "there are no daughters in this family." But the American media does not nominate Republican presidential candidates. And it was precisely his ability to arouse the faithful, in a famous televised speech during Barry Goldwater's 1964 presidential campaign, that made Ronald Reagan an instant national figure and a presidential contender.

Right now, the American conservative movement needs a presidential contender. Its members fought tenaciously against George Bush in 1980, and his being vice-president hasn't lessened their suspicion of him. Senator Robert Dole and ex-

Senator Howard Baker have been too ready to compromise with the Democrats. Ex-Senator Paul Laxalt has apparently decided not to make the attempt.

But the presidential campaign of Jack Kemp, the congressman widely respected as a John the Baptist of tax cuts, somehow doesn't seem to be taking off. It's hard to say why — perhaps the chronic disorganization of his office, or the caution that has kept him from more recent controversies or from risking a Senate contest in his home state of New York. Kemp's problems, though not insuperable, are sufficient to start his more nervous supporters eyeing alternatives.

Buchanan, 48, has never held elective office. But Ronald Reagan had won only one election when he first tried for the presidency in 1968. And anyway the prerequisites for American presidential candidates keep changing: this time around, Senators Howard Baker and Gary Hart have actually resigned their posts, arguing that presidential campaigns are full-time jobs. What Buchanan does have is extraordinary White House experience. Apart from his present position, he was Richard Nixon's speech writer for the beginning of Nixon's campaign for the nomination until the resignation over Watergate.

Additionally, in a media age, Buchanan has practically lived on camera as a hugely successful columnist and television controversialist, reputedly earning \$400,000 a year when he rejoined the White House two years ago. As anyone knows who watched the stilted "debates" during the 1984 election, most American politicians are pitifully slow on their feet by British standards. The style of debating favoured in American schools emphasizes the rote recitation of prepared texts; there is nothing like the House of Commons Question Time to teach survival against other professionals. Nasty things could happen to normal candidates up against a professional killer like Buchanan.

Even those familiar with the American political system's ability to generate the unpredictable might well doubt that an unfinishing ideology like Buchanan, firmly on the record attacking every known liberal shibboleth, could ever become a serious political candidate. But once the dice start to roll, no one knows.

Buchanan is expected to leave the White House soon. He may confront the public with a difficult problem: which professional group does it dislike most — journalists or lawyers?

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The author is a senior editor of *Forbes Magazine*.

Philip Howard

A lunch that's off course

There are no free lunches. But thank heavens for sandwiches; though the modern foodie-faddy, high-fibre sammies, made up of improbable bedfellows such as tuna and bananas, have an irritating habit of exploding like a hand grenade all down one's tie. The main advantage of a sandwich is that one can eat it while concentrating on something else, such as the crossword. When we are sandwiching, we neither want nor expect a gastronomic treat or an edible obstacle course.

It is well known that we thank John Montagu, the Fourth Earl of Sandwich, for the handy snack. As First Lord of the Admiralty he was responsible for the unpreparedness of the Royal Navy at the outbreak of the American Revolution. As a gambler so keen that, if there were no action around, he would play solitaire or patience, and bet against himself, he invented the sandwich so that he would not have to leave the gaming table for refreshment during one of his 24-hour orgies.

Sandwich was evidently a tireless man, a practical joker, ungainly, and as limply gangling as a pair of discarded red embroidered braces. While giving a dinner party, at which his chaplain was present, the Earl introduced a baboon dressed in clerical garb to say grace. The affronted chaplain left, saying as he went: "I did not know your lordship had so near a relative in holy orders."

It is the new proverb about there being no free sandwiches for lunch that I think we are getting wrong. We are agreed, are we not, that it is an Americanism, first popularized as one of the colloquial axioms and plinking truisms of monetarist economics: you cannot get something for nothing. But what Americans actually say is that there is no such thing as a free lunch, or: "There is no free lunch." The British have garbled it into claiming that there are no free lunches, "as the Americans say."

For one thing, this seems to me a gloomy, puritanical and ungenerous doctrine. It must be logically possible as well as good fun to stand a friend a free lunch sometimes. And for another thing, it is not what Americans say: I suspect that the phrase has a more romantic origin than the chatter of Friedmanite economists.

I think it comes from the expansive days before Prohibition forced Americans to lunch for days on end on nothing but food and water. Free lunch was an attraction of the pre-Prohibition

saloon. There was an elaborate spread of sandwiches and other cold cuts and foods. If he bought himself so little as a short beer, a man could help himself to as much free lunch as he wanted. If he bought no drink, he might, as



One warning: Americans also sometimes say, draw back a bloody stump. There was no free lunch for non-drinkers.

Contrary to the illiberal impression given by our misused and misunderstood proverb, Americans are generous believers in free lunch. There was a restaurant chain in Los Angeles that served free lunch to anybody who told the waiter he could not pay, because the owner had bad memories of an impoverished childhood. These origins of phrases are difficult to prove conclusively; and I dare say that the mean modern economist version that there are no free lunches has kicked the old meaning out of the nest.

The free lunch proverb has recently moved on in its economic context. There is a popular doctrine among American economists that big effects can be produced by small actions. For example, a tax cut of \$1 billion would raise the national income by \$5 billion, increase the government revenue by \$2 billion, reduce unemployment, restrain inflation, and bring back apple pie like Momma used to bake. This gnomish-like theorem was found written on the back of a paper napkin in a McDonald's hamburger joint. This gave rise to the latest economic axiom: "There ain't no such thing as a free lunch; but there is a cheap one."

Of course we ought to believe in free lunch. It is a noble and heroic concept. Just to vex the economists, I propose to stand you one as soon as you have a free day.

Michael Stourton
The author, a chartered surveyor, is a partner in Savills, land and estate agents.



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A DANGEROUS FALL

The enforced resignation of China's General Secretary, Mr Hu Yaobang, under pressure from his colleagues, has dealt a severe blow to his country's much-cultivated image. It has cast doubt on the ability and determination of China's leaders to continue their present policies, and thrown a shadow over China's future.

Hu Yaobang was not just a lively and engaging leader who did credit to his country abroad and to the central leadership when he travelled outside Peking. He was the man whom China's ageing senior leader, Deng Xiaoping, had designated his successor, and it was Hu's appointment as General Secretary by Deng in 1981 that marked the real break with Maoism.

Hu, 11 years Deng's junior, came to be regarded by many as a guarantee that the policies associated with Deng Xiaoping were irreversible, that even when Deng died, the open door, the economic reforms and the cultural thaw would live on. Now, Hu Yaobang has been criticized by the party, ostensibly at Deng Xiaoping's instigation, and many common — though over-optimistic — assumptions about China in the 1980s will need to be revised.

The demise of the party General Secretary was accompanied by the accusations of old-style leadership struggles, disappearance, rumours, reported illness. It was preceded by street demonstrations — perhaps related to the struggle, perhaps not — and by confused political directives emanating from Peking. There was a secret meeting, at which Hu "conducted self-criticism" and resigned.

Once again, the communist party was presented as wise, benevolent and above all united. An individual (no less a figure than the Party leader)

was adjudged to be out of tune with the demands of the party and lost his post. Such a sequence of events, such forms of words are a world away from the democracy China's students have been demanding.

Hu Yaobang appears to have been held to account for not being tough enough on the students and so permitting the emergence of "bourgeois liberal" tendencies in still-communist China. In other words, the political climate (believed by many to be well established) had changed, and Hu Yaobang (regarded outside China as well versed in the ways of his world as well as ours) had recognized the change too late.

That change in climate poses intriguing, but disturbing, questions about Hu Yaobang's erstwhile patron, Deng Xiaoping. Credited with being a thoroughgoing reformer, his reformist enthusiasm appears to have stalled at the sight of students marching for democracy. Has he grown fearful of the political passions that his economic reforms unleashed? Or is the ousting of Hu the first real sign that his authority is waning and the struggle for power post-Deng beginning?

The auguries so far are contradictory. Through the confusing street politics of recent weeks, the meetings behind closed doors, and the partial return to the interpenetrating vocabulary of the cultural revolution, the economic reform and the open-door policy which accompanied it have remained inviolate. Even as Hu Yaobang was confessing his shortcomings, television programmes beamed across China the speeches of senior officials pledging to continue the reforms.

But the frontier between

economic and political reform in a communist state has barely been tested anywhere in the world. Is it possible to take China's decentralization programme and its market-oriented reforms any further without increasing the pressure for political change on the lines some of the country's leading intellectuals (and now their students) have been advocating? Is it possible to learn technical lessons from the West without absorbing something of its political example as well?

China's experiment is being carefully monitored, and not only by its own intellectuals. Its size and strategic significance mean that there are many interested parties from outside as well. Any sudden change at the top holds uncertainties for them, too.

The West as a whole has started to build its foreign policy around a China that is politically stable and not hostile. The Soviet Union has begun a rapprochement with a China that is more to its liking than the China of Mao Tse-tung, and Mr Gorbachev has his own worries about the risks of economic reform. Britain, too, has a stake in China's future stability. The success of the Hong Kong agreement depends on it.

When announcing his resignation, General Secretary Hu Yaobang referred to the "mistakes" he had made in office. Under his leadership, China's intellectual and cultural climate became more liberal. China became accepted as a civilized diplomatic and trading partner, and the continuity his authority promised made the handover of Hong Kong at least a tolerable proposition. Is all this now to be described as a "mistake"? If so, there is much re-thinking to be done.

THE SHADOW OF THE ROCK

Gibraltar is casting a shadow over relations between London and Madrid, according to Senor Francisco Fernandez Ordonez this week. Spain's foreign minister was talking after two more days of what his government sees as largely fruitless talks about the future governance and status of the Rock.

Strictly speaking, he is right. But the blame for this lies largely in Madrid, whose politicians are impatient for change.

It is true that Britain has been at fault in allowing Spain to expect too much from the 1984 Brussels Agreement under which Madrid agreed to reopen its frontier with the Rock in return for fresh discussions on its future. The difficulty that Britain would inevitably face whenever the sovereignty issue was raised, always looked a basic weakness of the treaty.

Nonetheless, the Gonzalez government has handled its cards rather badly. Surrounded by issues, including Spanish accession to the European Community, membership of Nato and the size of American bases in Spain, its ministers have played one against the other with such complicating skill that they have ended up trumping themselves.

Thus they went easy on Gibraltar to ensure that their accession to the Community was not blocked, then tried to get tough with the Americans over the bases in the hope of

persuading the electorate to vote "yes" in last year's Nato referendum.

By trying to put pressure on the Americans over reductions on the bases, they have forfeited the chance of enlisting American help over Gibraltar. By courting West German support over their membership of the Community, they have probably lost the chance of using them to lean on Whitehall through the EEC.

Spain's next opportunity to re-examine its tactics arrives later this month when it meets Nato partners to discuss its military relationship with the alliance. Then a week later on February 3, it is due for its next argument with the United States over the bases. Could it now play its Gibraltar card more effectively?

The Americans have already pre-empted Spanish tactics by threatening to pull their forces out of Spain altogether — which would leave the Madrid government to meet many infrastructure bills, currently paid by Washington. As for the earlier meeting, it will probably come too quickly to allow much time for a change of tactics. Looked at in such terms of realpolitik Gibraltar represents an issue on which Spain has been wrong-footed.

This is not to say that Britain should sit back and do nothing, rejoicing in the Brussels Treaty and the burgeoning economy of the Rock. Nor is it to say that no progress of any kind is being made.

FOURTH LEADER

A French lady, visiting Britain, was found to have a live rat with her, thus contravening the laws designed to guard us against rabies, she was prosecuted, and fined £500.

You may think that the most careless traveller, even one carrying, say, some very old salami, would have noticed that a rat had stowed away in the luggage; even if this visitor did not scream, faint or climb on a chair, she would surely have taken steps to have her unwanted fellow-traveller removed. But the truth is even odder than that, for the rat was a pet — so much of a pet, indeed, that she refused to have it destroyed (apparently the tender-hearted Dover magistrates gave her the option), and had it taken back to the continent by a friend.

Actually, the truth is odder still, for her breach of the law was discovered when she went into a Dover restaurant carrying her rat.

There is no point in beating about the bush, be there never so many rodents concealed in its foliage; we don't like rats. We do not scream, faint or climb on a chair at the sight of one, but we do the next best thing, we shudder. Rats are notorious for spreading disease, starting with the Black Death, they are repulsive in appearance (not for nothing has "rat" become a term of the most extreme abuse among humans), and we know of no good deed they have ever done. (Those who claim that they did at least eat the wicked Bishop Hatto must steel themselves for the news; research has discovered that, so far from being the cruel tyrant of the legend, the Bishop was an exceptionally wise, kind and generous pastor, and if the rats did eat him it was one of the most shocking things they have ever done.)

On the other hand, we believe in the principle of live

and let live. Tastes differ, and some people might feel only warmth and affection at the sight of a rat; remember, also, that the rat-loving lady may have been descended from a long line of besieged and starving garrisons. But we really do think that taking rats into restaurants is beyond the limit.

Perhaps the explanation lies in the fact that the lady was a foreigner; after all, the French invented *ratatouille*, the Italians pioneered the drinking of *ratigina*, and the Germans call their Town Hall the *Rat-Haus*. There is an old joke that goes "Waiter, do you serve lobsters?", "We serve anybody, sir, come in", but we have never heard it told about rats. We had better leave the story here, lest the more nervous among our lady readers should have their dreams troubled by rats, and wake in terror at the postman's rat-at-tat.

Reaping benefit from science skills

From Professor Emeritus A. J. Morton

Sir, Amid the growing concern over the funding of science and technology it is important to get the balance right between science itself and the means of applying it effectively. It is worth asking why, with so many scientific firsts to our credit, we have not reaped more industrial benefit.

The fact is that science alone is not enough. Its economic value depends largely on the quality of engineering which can be brought to bear in order to design and develop new science-based products and to manufacture them efficiently at a competitive price. This is true whether the products are aero engines, mining equipment, consumer goods, micro chips, drugs or whatever. If the engineering is not good enough, industry will not prosper and there will be no money for science, arts or anything else.

Sadly, this is often the case. Much of industry lacks the high-grade engineers and technologists it needs and has become so accustomed to this that it regards the situation as normal. The effect on our manufacturing trade balance is grim. The facts have been apparent for many years to anyone who cared to look, but neither successive governments nor academia have looked hard enough or cared sufficiently.

In higher education this attitude shows itself in the gross underfunding of university engineering departments in comparison with physical science departments. There is no suggestion that this is deliberate malice; it is simply the result of a national failure to take engineering seriously and to grasp its scope, difficulty and importance. But it is no way to develop the engineering talent and ideas that industry needs.

By all means let us fund science properly but let us be clear that it will not solve our problems unless there is a proper share for engineering and technology in the package.

Yours faithfully,
A. J. MORTON,
Forder Cottage,
16 Knowle Road,
Bodleigh Salterton, Devon.
January 12.

From Professor G. Goldspink
Sir, The American National Science Foundation has recently confirmed that 1,000 scientists a year are leaving these shores and settling in the USA. It tends to be the better people, with valuable expertise in computer science, synthetic chemistry, biotechnology, applied physics and engineering, that are recruited by American universities and manufacturing companies. Britain has paid for their education, so it is crazy to lose this talent when we desperately need a strong science and technology base.

There are two aspects that I

A question of justice

From Mr Ludovic Kennedy

Sir, If one any longer had faith in the Court of Appeal to rectify miscarriages of justice one would agree with Mr Leon Brittan (January 10) that the Home Secretary should ask it to reconsider the cases of those convicted of the Guildford and Birmingham pub bombings.

But sadly one cannot. When the case of the Guildford four came before the court because of the confessions of two of the Balcombe Street gang that they, and not those convicted, had planted the bombs, Lord Justice Roskill not only declined to order a retrial but dismissed the appeal altogether.

In his judgment he emphasised the discrepancies in one of the gang's evidence but ignored those aspects of it that could only have been known to someone who had taken part in the crime.

Similarly in the case of the Birmingham six Lord Denning dismissed their appeal for legal aid against prison officers who, they claimed, had beaten "confessions" out of them. This is what he said:

"If the six men win, it will mean that the police were guilty of perjury, that they were guilty of violence and threats, that the confessions were involuntary and were improperly admitted in evidence and that the convictions were erroneous. That would mean the Home Secretary would either have to recommend they be pardoned or he would have to remit the case to the Court of Appeal. This is such an appalling vista that every sensible person in

Resigning from Royal Marines

From Lieutenant Peter Fraser, Royal Marines

Sir, The aim of Royal Marine training is not to break a man and force him into a Royal Marine mould. Rather, it is to build on an individual's strength and help him to overcome his weaknesses.

The training team responsible for Young Officer Batch, September, 1986, were without exception likeable, tough, friendly and helpful men who are doing their utmost to help all the members of the batch pass through training well. The course is exacting and difficult, but not impossible. At no time were we bullied or treated in an abusive fashion.

With reference to my own departure from the corps, I resigned my commission for personal reasons and to pursue a different path in life. There is no truth whatsoever in reports that I acted in concert with or had any form of pact or agreement with any other member of the batch. I considered my position over many weeks and I leave the Royal Marines with great sadness and their best wishes.

Yours etc,
PETER FRASER,
Chapel House,
Romaldkirk,
Barnard Castle, co Durham.
January 16.

TV world service

From the Editor of Independent Television News

Sir, Your report in today's edition on Mr John Tusa's evidence to the Foreign Affairs Select Committee quoted Mr Tusa as warning that Britain could be left behind in the development of external broadcasting by television. Independent Television News is already ensuring that this will not happen. On Monday, February 2, ITN will be transmitting the first live television news programme to be produced in Britain specifically for an overseas audience.

The 30-minute programme will go on the air nightly at 9pm GMT (10pm Central European Time) on the Super Channel satellite service. It will be beamed to over 6.5 million homes in 14 countries in Europe and the Middle East. Negotiations are in hand which would give the programme a larger world audience over the coming year.

The programme will provide a comprehensive coverage of world affairs as well as economic, cultural and sports news.

The service will be financed on a purely commercial basis with no public funding whatsoever.

Yours sincerely,
DAVID NICHOLAS, Editor,
Independent Television News,
ITN House,
48 Wells Street, W1,
January 15.

The great divide

From the Dean of St Paul's

Sir, A former St Paul's Cathedral organist, now a curate in Merseyside, tells me that among 2,000 people on one housing estate in his parish, unemployment stands at 60 per cent. Pilkingtons, however, still provide manufacturing jobs for many others.

The discussion of the Pilkington takeover simply in terms of profits is one more element in the despair of this disadvantaged northern community. Pilkingtons not only provide work but have given a lead in concern for the human environment. If such an efficient and humane firm is at risk, what hope is there for the North? Ought our conscience to be stirred?

Yours faithfully,
ALAN WEBSTER,
The Deanery,
9 Amen Court, EC4,
January 12.

Through a glass, darkly

From Mr Michael Baron

Sir, As a shareholder in Pilkington plc I have received a circular letter from the Chairman of BTR plc on the current takeover battle. It contains the following sentence: "References to short-term horizons are fanciful phrases introduced to embellish the alibis of long-term and heavy spenders, the dinosaurs from the mechanistic age."

I am confused.
Yours truly,
MICHAEL BARON,
Herbert Baron & Co, Solicitors,
124 St Margaret's Road,
Twickenham, Middlesex.
January 14.

Odious comparisons

From Mr B. M. S. Hoban

Sir, I offer three extracts from your journal for comment:

1. Friday, January 9, page 17, col 4: "It would not be so bad if we were talking about individuals earning, say, £100,000 a year but the Burton board are highly paid."

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The third paragraph of Mr Edgar Palmountain's letter yesterday should have referred to the impression created "that the City is nothing better than a jungle where predators and speculators thrive while the interests of the small investor are disregarded".

Resigning from Royal Marines

From Lieutenant Peter Fraser, Royal Marines

Sir, The aim of Royal Marine training is not to break a man and force him into a Royal Marine mould. Rather, it is to build on an individual's strength and help him to overcome his weaknesses.

The training team responsible for Young Officer Batch, September, 1986, were without exception likeable, tough, friendly and helpful men who are doing their utmost to help all the members of the batch pass through training well. The course is exacting and difficult, but not impossible. At no time were we bullied or treated in an abusive fashion.

With reference to my own departure from the corps, I resigned my commission for personal reasons and to pursue a different path in life. There is no truth whatsoever in reports that I acted in concert with or had any form of pact or agreement with any other member of the batch. I considered my position over many weeks and I leave the Royal Marines with great sadness and their best wishes.

Yours etc,
PETER FRASER,
Chapel House,
Romaldkirk,
Barnard Castle, co Durham.
January 16.

TV world service

From the Editor of Independent Television News

Sir, Your report in today's edition on Mr John Tusa's evidence to the Foreign Affairs Select Committee quoted Mr Tusa as warning that Britain could be left behind in the development of external broadcasting by television. Independent Television News is already ensuring that this will not happen. On Monday, February 2, ITN will be transmitting the first live television news programme to be produced in Britain specifically for an overseas audience.

The 30-minute programme will go on the air nightly at 9pm GMT (10pm Central European Time) on the Super Channel satellite service. It will be beamed to over 6.5 million homes in 14 countries in Europe and the Middle East. Negotiations are in hand which would give the programme a larger world audience over the coming year.

The programme will provide a comprehensive coverage of world affairs as well as economic, cultural and sports news.

The service will be financed on a purely commercial basis with no public funding whatsoever.

Yours sincerely,
DAVID NICHOLAS, Editor,
Independent Television News,
ITN House,
48 Wells Street, W1,
January 15.

The great divide

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ON THIS DAY

JANUARY 17 1840

Previous accounts of the Chartist movement ("On This Day", April 11, 1985, and May 31 1986) concerned the violence of the rioters. This earlier report represents a different picture. Some people today would have accused the police of "over-reacting".

ARREST OF ARMED CHARTISTS AND SEIZURE OF ARMS LAST NIGHT AT BETHNAL-GREEN.

At about 9 o'clock last night an adjourned meeting of Chartists was held at the Trades-hall, Abbey-street, Bethnal-green, "for the purpose (as the bill stated) of making known to the inhabitants the extraordinary and unprecedented state of misery, destitution, and despair to which the industrial classes at the present moment are reduced."

There appeared to be about 600 persons in the room, chiefly working-men and mechanics, and several women were placed in a gallery facing the platform.

The proceedings were commenced by singing the Chartist hymn, which was received with great applause.

Mr. NESOM, the chairman, then rose and stated that the object of the meeting was to annihilate the condition of the starving working classes, who were ground down by unjust and arbitrary laws, made by a Parliament in the election of which the people had no voice. He was now more than ever convinced that, until the five great principles embodied in the charter became the law of the land, there would be no justice for the working classes, and agitation would not be carried on until the people had a Parliament of their own choosing. (Cheers.)

Mr. SPUR then came forward to move the first resolution. "Little did he anticipate from what took place in that hall on Tuesday night that the Government would have deemed it necessary to make such a mighty demonstration of their strength. It appeared that information had been conveyed to the Commissioners of Police and to the Home-office, that those who had attended that meeting proposed to set the metropolis in flames, and, in consequence of that rock-and-a-bull story (laughter), the troops were ordered to be in readiness at the Tower, and detachments of military reserves were ordered to leave their barracks at Hounslow and march to the metropolis. The police were also in readiness to act, and instructions were forwarded to the several stations where fire-engines were kept to prepare for a general conflagration. (Renewed laughter.)"

At this moment a body of police of the H division entered the lower end of the hall with drawn cutlasses, and immediately proceeded, amidst the greatest uproar and confusion, and cries of "Police", to force their way into the body of the meeting, which had, up to this period, proceeded without any indication to break the peace. The police pushed their way through the crowd, and as it subsequently appeared, seized several persons with arms in their possession. The panic which their appearance caused cannot be described. A great portion of those assembled rushed through the passage leading to the entrance door and escaped into the street, and amongst the rest, Beniowski, the Pole, who, it appeared, had made a very inflammatory speech on the preceding Tuesday night, contrived to make his exit through a side door, leaving a formidable stick, which he carried behind him, on the platform. There was a general cry of "Shame!" and "Is this the way Englishmen are to be treated?" when the police entered the room, and several persons called upon the chairman to adjourn the meeting. The police, however, who acted under the directions of Captain Hay, the newly-appointed commissioner of police for the rural districts around the metropolis, advanced steadily.

Mr. SPUR, having been called upon to resume his speech, begged of his fellow-workmen to sit still and remain quiet.

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Yours faithfully,
BASHIERA ROSSER-OLSEN,
47 Davis Road, W3,
January 5.



COURT CIRCULAR

KENSINGTON PALACE
January 16: The Duchess of Gloucester, Patron, Asthma Research Council, this evening attended their "Diamond Dinner" at the Mansion House.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
January 16: Princess Alexandra this afternoon visited Rolls-Royce Motor Cars Limited at Conduit Street, London, W1.

Her Royal Highness, Patron of the British School at Rome, later received Mr C.A.H. James upon relinquishing the appointment as Hon General Secretary.

Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother will attend a recital in James's Palace on February 24 in aid of Action Research for the Crippled Child.

Birthdays

TODAY: Mr Muhammad Ali, 45; Sir Michael Chapman, 75; Mr Douglas Clevland, 84; Mr Justice Mervyn Davies, 69; Sir Keith Joseph, CH, MP, 69; Mr Geoffrey Paine, MP, 69; Mr Cecil Ramage, 92; Professor W.B. Robertson, 64; Miss Moira Shearer, 61; Professor Sir David Smithers, 79; Mr Clyde Walcott, 61; Miss Gillian Weir, 46; Lord Wheatley, 79.

TOMORROW: Air Marshal Sir Alfred Ball, 66; Dr David Bellamy, 54; Lord Bowdler, 77; Mr Raymond Briggs, 53; Mr Arnold Cantwell Smith, CH, 72; Sir William Harding, 60; Sir James Henderson, 86; Mr David Howell, MP, 51; Mr Edward James, 70; Dame Jennifer Jenkins, 66; Mr Danny Kaye, 74; Sir Godfrey Le Queux, QC, 63; Air Marshal Sir Leslie Mavor, 71; Sir Peter Preston, 65; Lord Seabrook, 78; Sir Michael Strevatt, 71; Sir Nigel Strutt, 71; Sir Walter Verco, 80; Sir Ralph Verney, 72; Sir Clive Whitmore, 52.

Schools

St Margaret's School, Bushey
Spring Term at St Margaret's School, Bushey, Hertfordshire, has begun for all pupils. The head girl is Karen Owen and the deputy head girl is Rosemary Gray. The new art block will be officially opened by Sir Hugh Casson, CH, on February 28. The confirmation service will be taken by the Bishop of Hertford on March 21, and the choir will join Harrow School in the evening to sing Mozart's *Requiem*. The school entertainment this term will be *Pirates of Penzance* to be presented on March 30 and 31. Term ends on Wednesday, April 1. The school congratulates those girls who have gained Oxford and Cambridge places.

Handford School
Handford School celebrates its fortieth anniversary this year and it is hoped that old girls will come to Handford on the Saturday of the Summer half-term, June 13. Details are available from Mrs Sharp.

King William's College, Isle of Man
Spring Term at King William's College, Isle of Man, began on January 9. S.W. Ellis is head of school and captain of hockey. The Adrian Hookham sevens tournament for preparatory schools will take place on March 8. The dramatic and musical societies will present *West Side Story* from March 18 to 21. Term ends on March 23. The London OKW dinner is on March 6 at the Naval Club, 38 Hill Street, London, W1. Details may be obtained from Mr H.G. Wallis, telephone: 0753 887700.

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1987 offers you a completely new opportunity if you want to make more of your money. Now you can start saving in a personal tax haven where money can grow and earn dividends and interest without you paying income or capital gains tax.

In a CU Personal Equity Plan you can save from £35 to £200 a month. Total payments in any one year may be as much as £2,400. This amount invested every year for 10 years could give you a £56,000 tax haven.*

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If you'd like to know more fill in the coupon and send it FREE-POST (no stamp needed). We'll send you a free fully explanatory brochure.

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*£56,000 is for illustrative only and is based on the assumption of a constant 9% dividend yield, a 10% annual growth in dividends excluding transaction and management charges.

To Mark Deacon, Commercial Union Assurance plc, PEP Department, FREEPOST, 431 Godstone Road, Whiteleaf, Surrey CR3 9UH. Please send me your free information pack about CU Personal Equity Plan.

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Christian art under a bushel

The Royal Academy's Spring Exhibition surveying some seventy years of 20th-century British art should appear to confirm the often remarked breakdown in relations between Christianity and the visual arts, so few religious works does it contain.

Do our country's well-known set pieces by Epstein, Gill, Spencer, Moore, Sutherland and Feibusch tell the whole story? Has the tourist of cathedrals and great churches seen the sum total of the products of artists inspired by the themes and symbols of the Christian faith?

The negative response both to those questions requires points to four factors which the churches can ponder and which may be worth noting by visual artists as well.

First, there is a very considerable body of 20th-century artists' work which bears on Christianity. It is mainly found in places of worship, in public and private collections, and unsold in artists' studios. Their wide distribution, coupled with the fact that many are fixed murals, has militated against their being assembled for showing and for the study of their cumulative impact.

Furthermore, some congregations are unwilling to part with an artwork which has come to play a prayerful role in their worship setting. Not all murals enjoy such a positive reception: it is a poor state of things when, for instance, the people of a post-war church in Oxfordshire have for many years shrouded with a curtain the large mural reredos painted for them in the fifties by Leon Underwood.

On the other hand, Sutherland's *Crucifixion* of 1946 in St Matthew's, Northampton, has been so much

exhibited that it has already had to undergo substantial repairs. Also well scattered in the sense that they are to be found in small numbers alongside others with no such religious overtones are the works with a religious theme in the collections of the Tate Gallery, the Arts Council, the British Council and provincial and other galleries.

Those holdings, presumably purchased or accepted for their artistic merits, go some way towards refuting the twin charges sometimes levelled against religion, either that it cannot inspire first-rate work or that first-rate artists shun religious themes.

Thus, in the collections listed above there are to be found religious works by (apart from artists named above or below) Norman Adams, John Burt Foster, David Jones, Wyndham Lewis, John Minton, Cori Richards, William Roberts and Carol Weight.

And are the church commissions of, for example, Norman Blaney, Elisabeth Frink, Evie Hone, Charles Mahoney, Thomas Monnington, Alberto Morrocco, John Piper, Ruskin Spear or Brian Thomas as well known as they should be?

Second, the commissioning of works by the churches in our century has been sporadic, to put it at its kindest. Individuals in the Roman Catholic religious orders, Bishop Bell of Chichester, Canon Mortlock, Father Ehrington and Dean Hussey have been the leaders, the first two with their European outlook attracting to work in this country's churches men who fled from the Hitler scourge before or during the second

world war: Ervin Bossanyi from Hungary, Adam Kossowski from Poland, Theodor Kern from Austria, and pre-eminently, Hans Feibusch from Germany with more than 30 murals in churches up and down the country to his credit.

Institutions such as the Council for the Care of Churches and its younger post-Vatican cousins in the Roman Catholic dioceses are concerned to commission the new as well as conserve the old. For its thorough method in the commissioning process as well as for the quality of the resulting works, the Edwin Austin Abbey Trust Fund for British Painting in Great Britain (administered from the Royal Academy) deserves special praise.

Third, and in seeming contradiction to the praise given to the trust fund with its proper emphasis on the just payment and treatment of the artist, there is needed a greater boldness in approaching artists if only to listen to them as a kind of vestibule to a commission.

What might not Paul Nash have done for the churches if commissioned? When will a Craigie Aitchison *Crucifixion* or one of Burra's treatments of the biblical narrative find its way into a worship space? Can David Hockney be encouraged to rediscover the roots of his old admiration for Stanley Spencer's vision, and indeed to develop his own tentative initiative in *The Oxford Illustrated Old Testament* of 1968-69? Or, to take the example of a recent graduate of the Royal College of Art, Richard Webb, how will his biblical subject matter fare in his first one-man show at the Benjamin Rhodes Gallery later this year?

Further, the present-day theological and liturgical climates surely do cry out for a muse. There have been some books in recent decades dealing with art and theology published here (though far fewer than in the United States and in the German-speaking world), but most have tended to start from and return to the philosopher's cell rather than the artist's studio. Publications concerned with worship and with its ordering usually relegate art considerations to an inconspicuous few pages.

And yet this must be expected when the training of clergy continues to tilt heavily towards the cerebral, conceptual and wordy. The words of modern liturgies having now been largely drained of beauty and of resonances with the real world, the way is open again for (to use a 19th-century term) the ministry of the arts.

The practical start to all that may require an exhibition assembling such movable works as it can and representing by photographs those it cannot, thereby ending for a season the dispersion of the works discussed.

Such an exhibition would encourage the artists and churches of today by giving them the chance to study the achievements of yesterday as well as its missed opportunities.

May the spirit of the late Dean Walter Hussey with his boldest commissions at Northampton and Chichester not desert the churches.

Tom Devonshire Jones
Vicar of St Mark's, Regent's Park, London

Forthcoming marriages

Mr S.C. Bailey and Miss E. Wells
The engagement is announced between Steven C. Bailey, elder son of the late Mr R.C. Bailey and of Mrs P.A. Bailey, of Pinner, Middlesex, and Elaine, elder daughter of the late Mr R. Wells and of Mrs M.E.J. Wells, of Ruislip, Middlesex.

Mr P.J.S. Batho and Miss S.J. Tessa-Flowers
The engagement is announced between Paul, elder son of Mr and Mrs W.J.S. Batho, of Woking, Surrey, and Sarah Jane, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs B. Tessa-Flowers, of Capel, Surrey.

Mr C.P. Beyerman and Miss J.R. Gibbon
The engagement is announced between Christopher, only son of the late Mr Bernard E. Beyerman and Mrs Joyce Beyerman, of Billerica, and Juliet, only daughter of Judge Michael Gibbon, QC, and Mrs Gibbon, of Cardiff.

Mr J.C. Biron and Miss S.A. Sills
The engagement is announced between John C. Biron, The Royal Scots, Dragoon Guards, son of Major and Mrs T. Biron, of Mayfield, Sussex, and Sarah Anne, daughter of Mr and Mrs F.S. Sills, of Wareham, Dorset.

Mr C.M. Carle and Miss F.M. Hasbary
The engagement is announced between Colin, son of Mr and Mrs S.J. Carle, of Glasgow, and Fiona, daughter of Dr and Mrs W.T. Hasbary, of Anchinloch, Glasgow.

Mr M.H.C. Curley and Miss G. Watson
The engagement is announced between Miles, elder son of Mr and Mrs Brendan Curley, of The Old Manor House, Havant, Hampshire, and Gemma, daughter of Mr and Mrs J.R. Watson, of Wimborne Minster.

Mr E.R.D. Hampton and Miss M. Ruiz Jimenez
The engagement is announced between Edward Robert Dupraz, son of Mr E.F. Hampton, of Woolvington, Somerset, and the late Mrs S.M.L. Hampton, and Magdalena, daughter of the late Mr I. Ruiz Ospina and Mrs M. Jimenez v. de Ruiz Ospina, of Bogota, Colombia.

Mr G.D. Whitaker and Miss M.S. McGill
The engagement is announced between Geoff, only son of Mrs Joan Whitaker and the late Mr Leonard Whitaker, of Great Sutton, Wirral, and Maggie, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Samuel McGill, of Bexhill-on-Sea, Sussex.

Mr C.J.M. Weeks and Miss S.E. Robinson
The engagement is announced between Christopher James Milbank, fourth son of Mr and Mrs P.B. Weeks, of Laverton, Somerset, and Sarah Elizabeth, only daughter of the Rev R.H. and Mrs Robinson, of South Cave, East Yorkshire.

Mr M.E.J.A. Wells and Mrs P.A.L. Biggs
The engagement is announced between Miles, elder son of the late Mr Patrick Rainey, and Paula, daughter of Mrs P.G. Hall and the late D.A.W. Hall, of London, SW7.

Mr J.A.L. Whelan and Miss C. Hazard
The engagement is announced between John, son of Mr and Mrs H.C. Whelan, of Aldridge, and Carolyn, daughter of Mr and Mrs G.A. Hazard, of Solihull.

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OBITUARY

MR MATT LINNING

A Telford of our time

Mr Matt Linning, CBE, who died on December 21 at the age of 62, as the result of an accident, was an outstanding figure in the development of Britain's North Sea oil.

As leader of the team which brought the British Petroleum Forties Field into production, he was responsible for one of the most important engineering feats in British history.

Matthew MacKinnon Linning was born on March 2, 1924, at Hamilton in Scotland. He was educated at Hamilton Academy and the Royal Technical College, Glasgow, where he graduated in electrical engineering in 1944.

After National Service in the Army, during which he rose from the ranks to be a captain in the Royal Engineers, he began his career in the oil industry when, in 1947, he joined the Kuwait Oil Company (owned by BP and Gulf Oil). He had two spells in Kuwait, divided by an interlude in London during which, in his spare time, he took a course in accountancy.

When he eventually left Kuwait he was running the company's entire operation there.

In 1969 he joined BP, and

his first task was to manage the expansion project at Llandarcy in South Wales. Two years later he was transferred to a senior post in the company's engineering department.

In 1972 he was given overall responsibility for the Forties project, and he remained in charge of it for the next five years. The project involved building four giant platforms and placing them in 400 feet of often stormy waters; also laying pipelines and handling lifts of 2,000 tonnes' capacity in the same difficult environment.

The work was complicated and risky, but Linning saw it through to a triumphant conclusion. It earned him an honorary degree from Strathclyde University, and rather modest recognition - all things considered - from the State. But he was not given a seat on the main BP board. He was a director only of its subsidiary, BP Petroleum Development.

In 1978 he left BP, while retaining some links with the company. For a time he considered turning to an academic career. He started reading for a DPhil at Aberdeen, his special subject being the psychology of people working

under stress in remote situations.

But the call of practical work proved too strong for him, and in 1983 he took charge of developing the Gaviota gas field off the north-east coast of Spain. This was the first offshore field to be developed in Spanish waters, and has provided Spain with its biggest reservoir of natural gas.

When the job was done, in June of last year, the British government appointed him consultant to the offshore supplies office and vice-chairman of the sub-sea group. His task was to formulate a national programme of sub-sea engineering. Clearly there was still plenty of scope for his talents.

Linning was a tough man with a deceptively mild manner. His powers of organization and leadership were of the highest order. He set much store by physical fitness, and was captain of the BP football team at Aberdeen even while he was directing the Forties project.

Yet there was also a literary side to him. He read a lot, and his greatest love was Dickens. He is survived by his wife, Margaret, and by their son and two daughters.

MR EWART MILNE

Mr Ewart Milne, Irish poet, sailor and farmer, died on January 14 at the age of 83.

For a quarter of a century his poetry was undervalued and neglected; but more recently it has begun to attract the attention of the discerning, and the best of it will certainly be remembered.

Charles Ewart Milne was born in Dublin on May 25, 1903, and educated at Nuns Cross National School, Wicklow, and Christ Church Cathedral Grammar School, Dublin.

He left school in no mood to be part of the civil strife afflicting his country, and in 1920 signed on as a cadet with the Elder Dempster Line. He spent much of the next fifteen years voyaging all over the world. Once during this period he thought of schoolmastering, but after a year as a student teacher went back to sea in 1925.

He began writing seriously in 1930. He tried his hand at short stories and plays, but came to the view that he was a poet. He had wanted to escape from the complexities of Irish politics, so, as a poet, he set himself against the Celtic Twilight school which had dominated his youth. And his early efforts appeared in an anthology entitled *Goodbye Twilight*. Notwithstanding this intention, echoes of early Yeats are detectable occasionally.

In 1935 Milne left the sea and began to be interested in

politics. Like most contemporary intellectuals he became a socialist. These convictions took him, in 1936, to Spain where he drove an ambulance for Medical Aid during the civil war.

But his idealism soon suffered a check. He felt the pure care of socialism to be under attack from military and political expediency, and he quarrelled with Auden over what he saw as the latter's cynicism about means and ends.

He continued with his work, though in a spirit of disillusionment, and left Spain only when Spanish Medical Aid was wound up after the fall of Barcelona.

He returned to Dublin, where his first volume, *Forty North Fifty West*, was published in 1938. Its title suggested a nautical content, but was meant to indicate merely that these poems were by a mariner. The coordinates are those of the spot where *Titanic* sank. *Letter from Ireland* (1940) and *Litany Mangan* (1941) tended to the satirical in their content.

In 1942 Milne applied for a visa to enter England. He wanted to help the war effort and was sent to be a land manager at Assington Hall, Suffolk. He also helped run a school conceived on socialist lines for the children of refugee diplomats, with Thelma Swinburne, who became his second wife after his first marriage, to Kathleen Bradner, had been dissolved.

MRS MARY LINDELL

Mrs Mary Lindell, OBE, heroine of the Resistance, died on January 8 while on a visit to Germany. She was 91.

As the Comtesse de Milleville she had a place in Parisian society. As "Marie Claire" she had a place in the hearts of many British airmen, whom she delivered to safety from the hands of the Gestapo.

Mary Lindell was born at Sutton, Surrey, on September 11, 1895. During the First World War she served as a Red Cross nurse, working in anaesthetics. She was partly gassed near Verdun and, while recovering in a Russian hospital in Brittany, met her future husband, the Comte de Milleville.

She was awarded the Croix de Guerre for gallantry under fire, and the Isarist Order of St Anne for her services to Russian wounded.

At the outbreak of the Second World War she again joined the Red Cross. She always wore her medals on her uniform.

During the occupation of northern France she obtained a personal introduction to the region's German commander. As a result she was given a permit for herself and a mechanic friend, which allowed them free movement across the country.

She used this freedom to transfer British airmen to the comparative safety of the *zone libre* in the south of the country. On one occasion picking up an injured German pilot and delivered him to his barracks, where she was greeted with champagne.

But she eventually fell foul of the Gestapo and was sent to Fresnes prison near Paris. On her release she made her way to Spain disguised as an elderly governess, reaching London in July 1942.

Reluctantly, British intelligence allowed her to return to France alone, since she refused to take with her the only available wireless operator. She landed near Limoges on October 21, 1942, and immediately began to pick up the threads of her organization.

A road accident two months later put her in hospital with five broken ribs. At this time ten Royal Marine commandos (the Cockleshell Heroes) were landed by submarine in the estuary of the Gironde to carry out a lumpy mine attack on German shipping.

MR WILFRED HOUSE

Mr Wilfred House, DSO, MC, died on January 9. He was 91.

Harry Wilfred House was born on September 30, 1895. He went to Rugby, winning an open scholarship to Queen's College, Oxford, in 1914.

He volunteered instead for the Army, and was commissioned in the 7th East Lancashire. He served in France for most of the war and was wounded in 1918.

After the war he studied in Paris, also holding a temporary post at the Colonial Office. In 1920 he went to last to Oxford.

In 1923 he became a fellow and lecturer at Queen's, remaining until 1941, when he was appointed Master of Wellington College, his predecessor having been killed by a German bomb.

His initial difficulties were great. He had no experience as a schoolmaster, and morale was low, with the boys spending night after night in air raid shelters.

By quiet resolution, however, his personality began to take effect. During a mastership of 15 years, punctuated by crises of bitter internal opposition which forced him to take very firm action, he won through. He brought men of outstanding scholarly gifts to the staff to replace those called to active service, among them Owen and Henry Chadwick, Alan Ker and Raymond Carr.

More enduring was his own quiet and kindly influence upon the boys, who came to recognize that, although not dynamic or eloquent, his concern for them as individuals was sincere.

Academic standards flourished and, through his masterminding of the centenary appeal, the school was re-established on a firm financial basis.

Nevertheless, he felt the strain, and the opportunity to cultivate his garden (his keenest recreation) came as something of a relief when he retired to Suffolk in 1956.

He married, in 1926, Marjorie Stracey Gibbs. She survives him with their daughter and two sons.

Science report

Super enzymes widen range of reactions

By John Newell

Enzymes, the natural catalysts that promote chemical reactions in living cells, are already used in industry, in washing powders for example, but they only catalyse a limited range of reactions.

Now two groups of American scientists have found a way to widen the range of reactions catalysed by enzymes enormously, making it possible to create a specific enzyme able to catalyse virtually any reaction.

The technique involves making the enzyme, as an antibody, the protein molecule which is formed in the body to protect a person or animal against infection.

Dr Scott Pollack, of California University at Berkeley, and Dr Alfonso Tramontano, of the Scripps Institute, and their colleagues in the United States have realized that it is possible to make protein compounds that will behave like enzymes, and catalyse virtually any reaction which proceeds via an unstable intermediate state.

It can be done simply by taking the intermediate state component and injecting it into a mouse.

The mouse reacts by making an antibody to the injected foreign compound. The cells making the antibody in the mouse are removed and immortalized by blending them into a hybrid cell culture, which will then manufacture the anti-

body in pure form and in any required quantity as a monoclonal antibody. That antibody can then be used as an enzyme because it reacts specifically with and stabilizes the molecules of the intermediate state in the reaction.

Since a mouse is capable of making literally millions of antibodies, the potential for making enzymes to catalyse any reaction involving molecules which can elicit an immune response is virtually unlimited.

Troops seize Ecuador leader

From Geoffrey Matthews
Bogotá

Confusion reigned in Ecuador yesterday after President León Febres Cordero was taken hostage by rebel members of the Air Force's Parachute Regiment.

While the civilian Government in Quito, the capital, declared a state of emergency, including severe restrictions on reporting of the crisis, the Air Force announced that it had closed the country's air space.

Flights to Ecuador from neighbouring Colombia were cancelled indefinitely. Ecuadorian radio journalists continued to report on the critical constitutional situation to radio stations in Bogotá, the Colombian capital.

Senor Febres was taken hostage after his presidential jet arrived at an Air Force base near Guayaquil early yesterday morning.

Immediately members of the Parachute Regiment began to shout demands for the release of Air Force General Frank Vargas Pazos, who has been detained in Quito since leading a bizarre five-day rebellion by the Air Force in March last year.

Shots were fired, and four people — believed to be members of the President's party — were killed, President Febres, who was unhurt, was then taken hostage.

So far there is no evidence that the Air Force is actually attempting a coup. Ecuador's Army and Navy were said to be loyal to the civilian Government.

The National Congress sitting in Quito voted to give Senor Febres' Vice-President full presidential powers.

● **WASHINGTON:** The United States said yesterday it deplored the uprising in Ecuador and called for the release of the President (Reuters reports).

"The US Government is totally opposed to this apparent attack on constitutional democracy," the State Department spokesman, Mr Charles Redman, said.

Breaking the ice in London yesterday



Not every London resident is overwhelmed by the freeze. This sealion, taking a swim at the zoo, was in his element (Photograph: John Rogers).

Ministers fear poll damage

Continued from page 1
needed in what has become such a key department.

Intriguingly, it emerged that while Mr Channon had only twice rejected the advice of the Director General of Fair Trade over whether a takeover bid should be referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission (Tory Trade Secretary has rejected the OFT advice nine times in all from about 250 cases a year) the second occasion, on October 3, involved a Pilkington subsidiary. Mr Channon disregarded the Director-General's advice and referred to the MMC the proposed acquisition by Owens Corning Fibreglass Corporation of

Pilkington Bros PLC.

The Government's alarm at the potential political damage over the City controversies was shown when Mr Douglas Hurd yesterday rushed out a public letter to Mr Mark Carlisle, chairman of the Conservative Home Affairs Committee.

Fraud, he said, was costing about £3 billion a year. At the end of 1985 cases worth £1.3 billion were being investigated. But two-thirds of cases were cleared up and those convicted of fraud had risen by 40 per cent.

The Government had passed the Financial Services Act, creating a comprehensive new system for the super-

vision of financial services, the Lloyds Act and the Building Societies Act. The Banking Bill was on its way through the Commons.

The Government had set up the Fraud Investigation Group in January 1985.

The Home Secretary said that through the new Criminal Justice Bill it was intended to establish a new Serious Fraud Office to handle between 50 and a hundred of the most complex cases every year.

The Department of Trade confirmed yesterday that mergers and takeovers had jumped from £1.3 billion in the last year to £1.1 billion in the first three quarters alone of 1986.

Russians still nervous over fragile ceasefire

Continued from page 1

patrol which was later followed by a high level of Soviet air activity.

Despite the ceasefire, the daytime sky here is often filled with exploding flares of decoy flares as Soviet aircraft continue to pump out the devices intended to deflect deadly, heat-seeking missiles which the rebels now hold in greater numbers than ever.

One Western source explained: "There is no doubt at all that the Soviet troops are still very nervous about the situation."

Against this uncertain background, the Soviet-backed Af-

ghan Government stepped up its propaganda campaign to persuade local citizens to back its new programme of national reconciliation and to convince the outside world that deep divisions are appearing in the ranks of the guerrillas.

A carefully orchestrated news conference at the Foreign Ministry, two black-bearded guerrilla leaders, who had recently come over to join the government side, were among a group of seven former anti-communists paraded to recount, with different degrees of credibility, their reasons for changing allegiance. Refugees return, page 6

Letter from Kabul

Russians duck for cover in markets

Despite the many bargains to be found along the twisting, dusty streets of Kabul's old bazaar, you will not find any Russians there on casual shopping trips. And the handful of western diplomats still based in the Afghan capital resort to a bizarre variety of methods to convince the locals that they are not Soviet.

"If a Russian was to go in there like we do, the only way that he would ever come out is feet first," one European diplomat explained. "Whatever you do when you go, make quite sure that you talk loudly in English and wear the most western-looking clothes that you possess."

The dangers lurking around every corner in an exotic city famous for its history of political intrigue, murder and hostility to outside occupiers are just some of the problems facing the Soviet Army. They have soured the enthusiasm of all but the most gung-ho career officers to stay.

Chronic gastric illnesses and endemic hepatitis are among the others.

The unease of those Soviet troops yesterday patrolling the streets of the sprawling city — which now has a population of nearly two million — is matched by the distinct failure of the seven years of Soviet occupation to kill the free market, which flourishes with a vengeance as it has done for centuries in this former caravan crossroads on the edge of the Hindu Kush.

Because of the ravages of the civil war that have virtually cut off Kabul from the outside world (apart from Soviet and Afghan aircraft, the only other way to fly here is on India's internal airlines), the traders have been denied the customers who used to flock here for carpets and drugs.

The sense of isolation, felt by foreigners and Afghans alike, has only increased the appetite for commerce, and outsiders purchasing carpets have been surprised to find that as well as almost any foreign currency the traders

will also accept personal cheques without even seeking identification.

The one currency which they are not fond of is the Soviet rouble, which commands a dismal rate compared with the US dollar on the thriving semi-legal money bazaar, where rates are more attractive than those on offer in the banks.

Walking around the streets on the second day of the unilateral ceasefire, I found that giant posters advertising the anti-Communist video *Rambo* were more common than the occasional Russian-language sign. In the carpet shops, the most popular purchases for the cosmopolitan are intricately-woven Afghan carpets depicting Soviet helicopters gunships hovering over the nearby mountains.

For a visitor from Moscow, the abundance of goods in the shops — especially fresh fruit and electronic gadgets — is a source of amazement.

The presence of the KGB-trained Afghan secret police, Khad, is all-pervasive, often following westerners in their imported black Volga cars.

Diplomats from Nato countries — none of which recognise the current Afghan regime — are especially closely watched and restricted to the city limits except on Fridays, when they are allowed to drive 15 kilometres to the country's one golf course at Khargah.

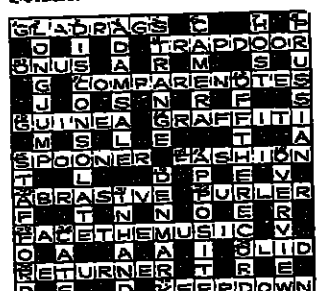
For the small British community, guarded by a detachment of Gurkhas and work in a splendid colonial-style embassy, there are many reminders of the good life once enjoyed by those posted here. Most evocative are the game and fishing books, their last recorded entry made on November 26, 1960, when Naim, the Afghan Crown Prince, held a stylish duck shoot for Lord Lansdowne.

The report shows that the party, which included the then British ambassador, took four boats and returned with a catch of 44 ducks, a shoveller and 43 mallards.

Christopher Walker

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Solution to Puzzle No 17,250



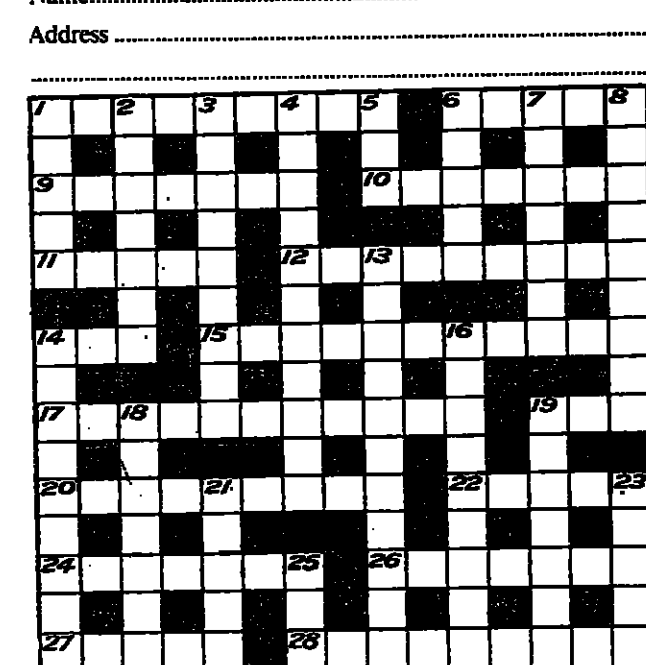
Solution to Puzzle No 17,255



The Times Crossword Puzzle No 17,256

A prize of The Times Concise Atlas of the World will be given for the first five correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: *The Times Saturday Crossword Competition*, PO Box 486, Virginia Street, London E1 9DD. The winners and solution will be published next Saturday.

The winners of last Saturday's competition are: J D Carlyle, Stour Street, Alnwick, Northumberland; Mrs M M Cronin, Glenville Road, Mumbles, Swansea; S E Kelso, Arden Court, Bramhall, Stockport; Mrs A M Polhill, Tipton St John Vicarage, Sidmouth, Devon; A Willis, Main Road, Drayton Parslow, Milton Keynes.



ACROSS

- 1 Keen struggle at first for Geronimo, say (6-3).
- 6 Fishy ink drawing (5).
- 9 Bowl ball that is abused when it comes back (7).
- 10 Like an African flower, white and blue (7).
- 11 Demand out of turn (5).
- 12 Dissatisfied employees who might use 20 as their 1st (9).
- 14 General refuge (3).
- 15 Smack (heroin) made up for one endlessly addicted? (5-6).
- 17 Measure of brilliance of the Babylonian round-trip? (11).
- 19 Army officer's short pass (3).
- 20 Burst of temper harmless to those who retire soon enough? (9).
- 22 Ballistic missile, after much delay, unfinished (5).
- 24 "Fish-eggs" — head of medical school (7).
- 26 Frame old picture (7).
- 27 Poet's ambiguous response (5).
- 28 Strange ring an awe-inspiring sound for him? (19).

DOWN

- 1 Charged about a grand for the device (5).
- 2 How long has ploughman to do such work? (7).
- 3 Villa 1, etc — possible result according to the book (9).
- 4 Variety of harder scrap-dealer who is tricky (4-7).
- 5 Longing for money (3).
- 6 Rent a place in Yugoslavia (5).
- 7 Robin Goodfellow eats an awful lot — whatever's going (3,4).
- 8 Like the line coming down from Lancaster? (9).
- 13 H²(007)0 — dividend-stripping formula (4-7).
- 14 What makes fireflies glow can be the very devil at home (7).
- 16 Spill — French patient, providing jam (9).
- 18 In which two-year-olds can play or run (7).
- 19 Hole in one for the sculptor (7).
- 21 Mourning clothes very small on Italian from the sign (5).
- 23 Forbidding novelist to speak (5).
- 25 Just a warning this time (3).

Copied Crossword page 17

Today's events

New exhibitions

Joyce Cairns: New paintings; Sam Ansley: *Why I Choose Red*; both at Third Eye Centre, 350 Sauchiehall St, Glasgow, Tues to Sat 10 to 5.30, Sun 2 to 5.30 (end Feb 14).

Harvey's History of Wine Collection: Corinium Museum, Park St, Cirencester, Tues to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5 (ends Mar 29).

Last chance to see

New Acquisitions — Landscapes: Victoria & Albert Museum, 10 to 5.30.

Musical

London Festival Ballet: *The Nutcracker*, Festival Hall, 3 and 7.30.

Gilbert and Sullivan — *Gala Night*: Barbican Hall, 7.45.

Lindsay Quartet: Schubert recital: Wigmore Hall, 7.30.

NCOS Symphony Orchestra: Vaughan Williams, Barber, Koussevitzky: Greenwich Borough Hall, 7.30.

Peter Pan: The musical in film: The Congress Theatre, Eastbourne, Sussex, 7.30.

Organ Recital by Neil Taylor: Cathedral and Abbey Church of Saint Alban, St Albans, Herts, 6.

Cantata: Early Music Network, duets and dialogues: Barnfield Theatre, Exeter University, 8.

Hallé Orchestra: Berg Concerto and Mahler Symphony No 1; St David's Hall, Cardiff, 7.30.

Rochdale Borough Music Society: Michael Collins (Clarinet) and Kathryn Stout (piano); Brahms, Chopin, Debussy, etc: Civic Theatre, Rochdale, 7.30.

The English Concert: Chamber music including Bach Quintets and Telemann Suites; Shepperton Theatre, Oxford, 8.

Concert by Scottish National Orchestra: City Hall, Glasgow, 7.30.

Talks, films and lectures
Church Music Today by Simon Lindley: Bluecoat Chambers, Liverpool, 3.

Captive (1985), with Irina Brook and Oliver Reed: Plymouth Arts Centre, 38 Looe St, 8.00.

General
Ninth International Mime Festival: Mick Wall, Battersea Arts Centre, Old Town Hall, Lavender Hill, 8, Pat Van Hemelryk, ICA, The Mall, 8 & 10, John Mowat, The Place Theatre, 10 Duke's Rd, WC1, 8.

Tomorrow's events
Last chance to see Peter Blake: Commercial Art; Watermans Art Centre, 40 High St, Brentford, Middlesex, 11 to 9.

Barely an Instant: Photographs by Nan Hoover; Kettle's Yard Gallery, Castle St, Cambridge, 2.15 to 5.

Musical
Hallé Orchestra: Greater Manchester County Concert (Berlioz, Mendelssohn, Mahler); Manchester Free Trade Hall, 7.30.

British Federation of Young Choirs Singing Day: Fairfield Halls, Park Lane, Croydon, 3.

Wind Soloists of the Chamber Orchestra of Europe (Mozart, Haydn, Beethoven): Shirley Hall, King's School, The Precincts, Canterbury, 3.30.

Roads

Midlands: Many minor roads remain blocked throughout Norfolk and Suffolk. All routes into Cambridgeshire open but care needed. Following roads closed or some single line traffic: Suffolk: A140 Mickfield — A140 J. A1120: A144 Bungay — Halesworth; A147 Soale — Harleston; Norfolk: A140 Harworth; A149 Thorpe Mkt; A149 Stiffkey — Blakeney; A1064 Filly. Nottinghamshire: All main roads passable with care. Derbyshire: A57 Snake Pass; A628 Woodhead Pass; A537 Dewane; A53 Leek A5002; all other main roads passable with care. Northamptonshire: A422 Brackley end blocked; M1 throughout E Midlands is clear. Warwickshire: All major roads S of Warwick being closed while police clear broken down vehicles.

North: Humberside: A62, A58, A672, A640, A635, A6024, A6033 all closed. W Yorkshire: A169, A165 closed. N York: A344, A169, B127, B1248, A165, B1249 closed. Lancashire: A680 closed. Cheshire: A537, A54, A5002 closed. Gloucestershire: A46 S of Stroud, A38, A417, A40, A424, A39, A362, A368, A39, B311, closed. Dorset: A35, A356, closed.

West: Most roads affected by snow or ice drifting below. Scotland: A39 Blackmoorgate — Lynmouth. A399 Blackmoorgate — Coombe Martin, A35 Honiton — Axminster. A373, A361, all closed. Wiltshire: A303, A30, A360, A342, A344, A345, A419, A4631, closed. Gloucestershire: A46 S of Stroud, A38, A417, A40, A424, A39, A362, A368, A39, B311, closed. Dorset: A35, A356, closed.

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The pound

	Bank	Bank
Australia \$	2.27	2.27
Canada \$	1.23	1.23
Denmark kr	16.06	16.06
France F	6.55	6.55
Germany DM	2.36	2.36
Italy L	1.36	1.36
Japan Yen	163.60	163.60
Netherlands Gld	2.20	2.20
Norway Kr	11.46	11.46
Portugal Esc	200.48	200.48
Spain Ptas	166.64	166.64
Sweden Kr	10.36	10.36
Switzerland Fr	2.05	2.05
USA \$	1.93	1.93
Yugoslavia Dnr	135.47	135.47

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency businesses.

Retail Price Index: 383.0

London: The FT index closed down 3.9 at 1403.0.

Portfolio Gold

For readers who may have missed a copy of *The Times* this week, we repeat below the weekly's *Portfolio* price changes (today's are on page 29).

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th	13th	14
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Traders blamed the decline on profit-taking following the rally which had lasted for 10 sessions running. The Dow Jones industrial average, which gained as much as 17

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

First Dealings	Last Dealings	Last Declaration	For Settlement
Jan 5	Jan 16	Apr 2	Apr 13
Feb 9	Jan 30	Apr 23	May 7
Feb 2	Feb 13	May 7	May 18

Cash options were taken out on 181 RT Premier Cons., Sodagwig, Guinness, Israel J. B. D., Dowbrast, B. U. G. Baracore, Long and Short.

Int'l. Benton, Abaco, London Int'l. Trust, Pacer Group, Penny Raye, Nith, Kila, Williams, Cornwell, Akerly, Capri, Lussan, and W. H. Burns, Inc.

Aran Energy, Atlantic, Florida, B. Land, Transworld, Sound Diff., Phoenix Propane, Canewary, Rasal, Morgan Grantiel, Westwood Deaves, Thames Mariner, Connells.

Pure Wellness

Fuchs & Kelly Ryan International, Pearl Group.

...and the

STOCK MARKET

Berisford slips as dealers fear bids will be blocked

By Michael Clark and Carol Leonard

The leaks were springing fast and furious again in the City yesterday. This time they centred on the £530 million battle for control of S&W Berisford, the commodity trader and food manufacturer and currently the subject of a Monopolies and Mergers Commission probe.

Dealers were taking the view yesterday that both the proposed bids for Berisford by Tate & Lyle, the Mr Cane sugar group and Ferruzzi, the Italian food group, will be blocked by the Government.

The original bids, along with one from Hilldown Holdings which eventually dropped out of the running, were referred to the Monopolies Commission last May. The MMC's inquiries were extended to this month and completed earlier this week.

His findings have now landed on the desk of Mr Paul Channon, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, for him to make a final decision. An announcement is expected within the next couple of weeks.

But speculation that Mr Channon will comply with the MMC recommendation saw the shares of Berisford slip by 2p to 268p yesterday, while Tate & Lyle rose 10p to 633p. Last year, Berisford reached agreement for the Italians to buy a 70 per cent stake in Berisford's British Sugar subsidiary for £400 million.

Elsewhere, in the food sector, Rank Hovis McDougall improved 4p to 286p on suggestions that one of the company's big two overseas investors was adding to its stake. Goodman Foods, the Australian food group, owns nearly 15 per cent of the shares along with Fletcher Challenge, the New Zealand food group. Hoare Govett, the broker, was said to have been a big buyer of the shares.

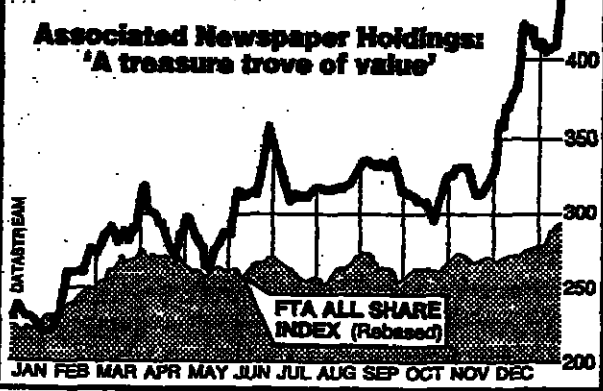
The rest of the equity market showed signs of running out of steam after 17 consecutive days of gains. Dealers are still hoping for lower interest rates and a tax cut in the next Budget, but some fear that prices are

spurred gains of about £1 at the longer end of the market, helped by a better performance by the pound on the foreign exchange market.

Pilkington Bros leapt 25p to 710p after announcing a pre-tax profit forecast of more than doubled results of £250 million. Dealers are now bracing themselves for a higher offer from BTR, which was up 5p to 293p, next week.

Guinness lost an early lead, to finish 17p down at a new low of 772p after the latest revelations and its decision to postpone its latest dividend payment. Mr James Gulliver's Argyl Group, which lost in the bid battle for Distillers, is now almost certain to take legal action.

Unilever, the Anglo-Dutch food and household goods group, stood out with a leap of 58p to £22.58. Dealers have reported heavy support for the



some better-than-expected figures, showing a pre-tax up by 10 per cent to £46 million.

Last week, the shares stood at 409p. Earlier this week, Associated sold its 3 per cent stake in the Herald and Weekly Times to Mr Rupert Murdoch's News Corp for £260 million (£26 million).

Kleinwort, the broker, has just published a glossy circular on the company, describing it as a "treasure trove of value." Mr Luke Johnson, a media analyst at Kleinwort, is looking for a big increase in profits from Associated's three main titles if the move to its new production site in London's Surrey Docks proves successful next year.

TVS advanced another 4p

Lacatia, the New York investment group, is next week expected to announce a holding of more than 5 per cent in Argyle Trust, where Mr Nick Oppenheim is deputy chairman. Argyle's shares have risen from 88p two weeks ago to a peak of 114p. No talks have yet taken place between the companies.

to 279p, still reflecting recent figures, while Anglo added the same amount to 370p. Central Independent rose 5p to 390p, LWT (Holdings) 13p to 505p, Scottish Television ordinary 6p to 347p and Thames 1p to 334p. Dealers claim that the television companies already look good value for money in their own right, boasting high yields and low p/e.

It looks like open season on Britain's army of merchant banks. Speculative buying was good for several of them again yesterday, amid renewed talk that they are being eyed-up by potential bidders who like the look of the London financial services scene at the moment.

Morgan Grenfell, currently at the centre of the DTI investigation into Guinness, attempted an early rally, but soon ran out of steam. The price eventually closed 5p lower at 325p. But there were good gains for Hill Samuel, finishing another 11p up at a new peak of 516p. CrownK, the Canadian insurance company, recently bought a near-15 per cent stake and F&I, an Australian insurance company, also revealed last week that it had bought 7.5 per cent of the shares. There is talk in the market that a full bid for the company will be launched next week with an opening shot of 560p.

ALPHA STOCKS

These prices are at 6.45pm

1986 High	1986 Low	Company	Price	Change	1986 High	1986 Low	Company	Price	Change
555	290	Allied-Lyons	343	+48	145	42	18.8	4.2	18.8
198	148	ASDA-MFI	148	+10	47	32	18.2	7.00	320
675	178	B&W	278	+10	84.8	5.1	17.5	4.08	285
300	244	BTR	268	+24	8.8	3.3	28.4	7.90	80
514	444	BAT	498	+54	18.4	37	13.1	5.80	301
582	465	Barrat	544	+18	28.1	5.1	7.3	2.70	231
782	702	Bell	722	+80	10.5	3.8	15.8	5.00	622
482	411	Benetton	472	+71	17.1	4.5	19.5	8.00	522
727	621	Blue Circle	690	+36	30.0	4.3	8.8	1.80	578
404	328	BOC	368	+36	15.4	3.8	13.1	3.70	618
694	611	Bovis Lend Lease	684	+8	10.5	4.2	15.8	4.00	714
585	495	Br. Aerospace	577	+82	28.4	4.6	12.2	1.80	744
735	61	Br. Gas	70	+72	8.3	13.1	7.00	7.00	689
814	698	Br. Petroleum	800	+16	48.8	5.1	8.8	1.00	244
694	611	Br. Telecom	684	+10	11.2	5.0	12.5	5.00	588
207	135	Brick	198	+7	8.5	4.7	6.4	8.40	622
234	258	Barton	268	+34	8.1	2.8	17.5	4.00	615
372	277	Cable & Wireless	282	+85	7.2	2.0	20.0	3.40	781
372	277	Cashew	282	+85	8.7	4.5	28.5	5.10	640
584	444	Castle	520	+64	17.4	3.4	15.8	3.20	587
285	257	Com. Union	287	+30	17.3	8.0	5.20	5.20	440
722	653	Corn Goldfields	715	+69	35.0	4.9	20.5	8.80	148
362	282	Courtauld	362	+80	10.2	2.3	11.9	1.40	537
232	201	Dow Corning	227	+31	10.6	4.8	18.8	2.00	104
380	378	Dunlop	378	+2	5.2	1.6	23.3	2.00	282
650	438	Fisons	585	+65	8.4	1.4	26.8	7.07	186
362	282	Glaxo	362	+80	84.2	5.1	21.5	3.00	437
228	180	GE	185	+48	6.3	3.2	12.3	2.00	595
111	87	Glaxo	111	+14	20.0	1.8	23.5	1.00	772
481	385	Grand Met	487	+2	34.8	5.2	13.1	1.00	102
111	87	Glaxo	111	+14	20.0	1.8	23.5	1.00	772
559	475	GRE	525	+84	42.5	5.1	34.0	1.00	529
385	295	GKN	302	+83	17.9	5.9	10.2	3.40	330
624	578	Guinness	578	+46	11.2	4.8	18.8	5.00	188
219	158	Hanson	205	+11	6.1	2.0	13.1	1.00	225
823	403	Hawker Siddeley	404	+20	21.4	4.3	10.9	7.25	238
12	882	Imp. Chem. Ind.	11	+115	48.5	4.1	13.4	3.50	279
595	540	Jaguar	575	+20	12.7	2.2	11.9	1.50	825

TEMPUS

Grand Met's 'quiet' deal takes it into the drinks big league

Top marks to Sir Stanley Grimstead and his tight-lipped management team at Grand Metropolitan for demonstrating that it is still possible to negotiate an important deal without springing enough leaks to satisfy the thirst of every watering hole in the City.

In one bold stroke, Grand Metropolitan's unexpected £800 million acquisition of the big US drinks business Heublein appears to have accomplished two important tasks for the group.

The British group becomes a big player on the international drinks scene by dramatically strengthening its marketing base, and at the same time has virtually made itself bid proof.

Grand Met, through its IDV drinks operation, has had trading links with Heublein for some years.

It has to be hoped that Grand Met has learned lessons from the acquisition of the Liegett and Myers cigarette business, and no sudden collapse in the market is foreseen.

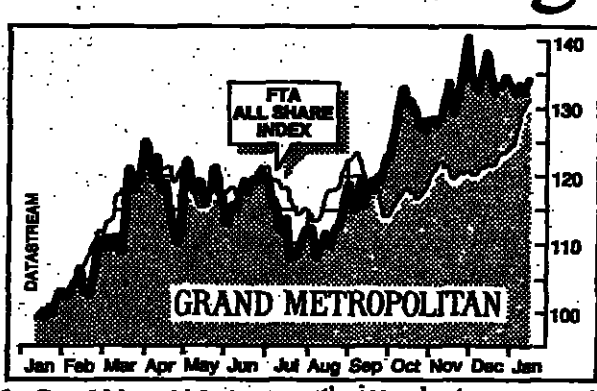
Grand Met will now administer a formidable drinks portfolio with powerful brand names which can be effectively marketed only with the international muscle of a group of its size.

But there is a price to pay. The deal will eat into Grand Met's gearing from 38 per cent, the lowest in its history, to about the 108 per cent level.

Sir Stanley seems satisfied that the strong cash flow generated from Heublein, coupled with further disposals, there is a property portfolio worth £2 billion - will steadily erode the high borrowings.

In any case, he is consoled by the fact that the increase in borrowings will act as a sufficient deterrent to dissuade any would-be predator from that much trumpeted takeover bid for the group.

Indeed, yesterday's acquisition should lay to rest any lingering hopes of a bid



for Grand Met, which should see the shares assume a more sedate posture. There is a lot of logic in the Heublein acquisition, but the real benefits of the deal will not begin to flow until next year.

Meanwhile, the shares at 454p, down 5p on the announcement, continue to look good value.

Valuedale/Simon

Engineering

Valuedale's increased offer for Simon Engineering has addressed several of the criticisms made against its original offer.

Clearing, including intangibles, is down to 47 per cent from 82 per cent. Simon shareholders will retain 85 per cent of the company, after conversion of the incoming management's deferred shares, instead of 62 per cent. Morgan Guaranty, the new lead bank, is taking a less interventionist role than Citibank, the former lead bank. It is putting up £70 million in bonding facilities, compared with the company's present facility of £140 million.

The problem remains of how to value the Valuedale shares, which are now worth 125p, instead of 100p, because of the rise in the stock market and the change in the capital structure of the bid. The subjective content of the valuation is still an assessment of the Valuedale team's ability to do a better job than

the incumbent management. The record of Mr Philip Ling, the future chief executive if Valuedale wins the bid, is not so long or so illustrious, nor the record of Simon so awful that the argument is convincing.

In addition, the cash content of the bid has been reduced by 30p a share. Hill Samuel, acting for Simon, reckons that if the preference shares are excluded, the bid has a negative net worth of £35.9 million.

The offer price of 325p, even accepting the value of a Valuedale share, is not a knockout blow. The City is expecting profits this year from Simon of £33 million, giving a prospective p/e ratio of just under 10, assuming tax at 32 per cent. The offer has no bid premium in it.

Simon's shares opened at 323p yesterday, but fell to 304p as the market examined the new bid. At these levels fundamentals should support the price.

Shareholders should stick with the bid. If Simon cannot produce a more inspiring performance in the future, it will attract another predator and at a better price.

Regalian

Properties

Regalian Properties' gravity-defying share price has been taking a rest since last year's £35 million rights issue. But the shares may come out of hibernation soon, stimulated by details over the past two months of schemes worth

about £100 million. Added to an already impressive workload, this brings the value of potential projects to well over £400 million.

The most recent announcement was the acquisition of the three-acre "Green Giant" site at Vauxhall Cross, London, where the construction of 280 homes and 25,000 sq ft of retail and leisure space is envisaged.

The current value of the project on completion is about £60 million, providing a source of profits until at least 1993. Although planning permission could take some time to secure, work should begin in 1990.

Regalian's claim to fame comes from its focus on inner city refurbishment. It has been buying rundown estates from local authorities keen to realize capital. The blocks of flats are gentrified and then sold on.

This strategy has produced an impressive flow of profits since Regalian generates a net margin of 20 per cent. Although shareholders have frequently been asked to dig into their pockets, the phased funding of projects has lessened the burden.

Early schemes involved refurbishment work only, but the group has become aware of opportunities for "new-build".

Regalian is a unique company which has not yet disappointed those who put their faith in it. Admittedly the risks - the effect on Regalian's ability to obtain work in a harsher political climate and the consequences of a sudden fall in the housing market - should not be overlooked, but brokers' estimates of £7.6 million for the current year, rising to £13.2 million and £18 million in the years up to the end of March 1989, are considered conservative.

The shares are selling on an unremarkable p/e, which is strange given that the profits outlook is remarkable.

COMMENT Kenneth Fleet

Booming Pilkington too much for BTR

Paul Channon's decision not to refer BTR's bid for Pilkington to the Monopolies Commission must have been a difficult one. On competition grounds alone, there was every reason for the Secretary of State to refer if he wished.

A successful bid would transfer a company with a clear monopoly position in an important industry influencing construction and motor industry costs to a management with a very different philosophy, specifically geared to maximizing profit margins without undue regard to sales growth. Equally, it was perfectly consistent with policy not to refer a conglomerate merger.

There are, however, far more crucial economic considerations than those of competition, including research spending, investment, the regional economic base and Britain's international commercial and technical leadership in one of the few industries where we still have it.

The question is who should be judging these issues? Not to refer risked the charge of total disinterest. Certainly the Government has done little to counter the impression that Pilkington, with its traditionally concerned paternalistic attitudes, and its commitment to long-term industrial rather than financial values, came into that most despised of categories - the wet.

In his statement, however, Mr Channon made it clear that he thought important issues were at stake but that shareholders were best placed to judge them.

This could turn out to be a timely decision, designed to force City institutional shareholders to take a rounded view of the bid's industrial and economic effects. The City has preferred to take a strict market view and fob off wider responsibilities on the Government. This is as good an opportunity as any for the Government to put responsibility back in the big shareholders' court.

BTR opened the option of withdrawing gracefully from the fray last night. Unless it does so, we shall see the modifying spectacle of two of Britain's most successful, if philosophically incompatible, companies slugging each other in public for three weeks.

If that happens, BTR is likely to come off worst. Its bid has turned out to be an appalling time from the political point of view as well as in terms of Pilkington's recovery. Only a few months and a few glass price increases ago, City analysts were merely hoping for £170 million pretax profit instead of the £250 offered after nine months of trading.

Even before the Pilkington forecast, leading institutional investors were

unhappy about the bid in the new climate. More than one has suggested that he would back Pilkington's management unless BTR came up with the sort of offer that would make him most unhappy as a shareholder in BTR.

The original £1.2 billion offer has already sagged with the BTR share price. Now Pilkington shares are likely to establish a new floor at around 720p, only ten times earnings with much of the effect of UK price rises to come through in 1987-88.

A price well above 800p might be sustainable, and it is hard to see an offer of less than 860p having much chance of success. Pilkington is simply not the company it appeared to be last year.

Post Guinness, it is hard to see the BTR share price or potential underwriters sustaining the sort of offer that would be needed, despite their long and profitable love affair with BTR's Sir Owen Green. Would they want to put more of their eggs in the BTR basket just at the moment when Sir Owen was beginning to bow out?

BTR's image is also vulnerable to attack. A close look at its accounts confirms its total dependence for enduring growth on a rich diet of takeover bids. Although disposals cloud the picture, it does appear that the sales of BTR's businesses have not been growing if the sales brought in with the successive takeovers of Thomas Tilling and Dunlop are stripped out. Perhaps worse, without £74 million from Dunlop and £10 million from Nylex last year, profits would have fallen slightly.

That is not in itself a damning criticism of BTR, except to the extent that the rapid profit growth of bought-in businesses is bought by heavy write-offs on acquisition. After all, BTR is essentially a group that shrinks businesses back to a sustainable core and then makes that core efficient, hard-selling and profitable. Growth for shareholders comes from repeating the process.

Lack of sustained internal growth - an analysis which BTR may care to dispute - would certainly make its system highly vulnerable to any loss of image. Its ability to use its paper to make bids is crucial to its success. Once the market even suspects that might be lost, the fear would be self-fulfilling, leaving BTR as another stranded conglomerate whale as Thomas Tilling was.

Both Sir Owen and his advisers, Morgan Grenfell, are understandably anxious to win this bid. But a graceful withdrawal to stalk other prey in genuine need of the Green treatment looks the wiser course.

Graham Searjeant

Financial Editor

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T1007/JUL

16 Ex. stande, e Cum dividend, e Cum stock stand, e Ex stock stand, e Cum all any two or more of above, e Ex all (any two or more of above), e Cum all (any two or more of above), e Valuation day, (1) Monday, (2) Tuesday, (3) Wednesday, (4) Thursday, (5) Friday, (6) Saturday, (7) Sunday, (8) 1st day of month, (9) 2nd and 3rd Wednesday of month, (10) 20th of month, (11) 24th and 25th of month, (12) 2nd Tuesday of month, (13) 4th Tuesday of month, (14) 1st Wednesday of month, (15) Last Thursday of month, (16) 16th of month, (17) 1st working day of month, (22) 20th of month, (23) 21st day of February, (24) 1st day of February, (25) 1st day of month, (26) 15th of month, (27) 14th of month, (28) 21st of month, (29) 2nd Wednesday of month, (30) 2nd Wednesday of month, (40) Valued monthly, (41) Last Thursday of Stock stand, (42) 1st day of month, (43) 2nd and 4th Wednesday of month, (44) Quarterly, (45) 6th of month.

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

Portfolio - Gold -

From your portfolio card check your claim share price movements on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily price money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming.

No.	Company	Claim	Gain or Loss
1	Marston (W)	Food	
2	AE	Motors/Aircraft	
3	RHM	Food	
4	Wiggins	Building Roads	
5	Sci TV	Cinema TV	
6	Portsmouth Steel	Newspaper/Pubs	
7	Cambridge Elec	Electronics	
8	Mogin	Industries L-R	
9	Bowater	Industries A-D	
10	New London Oil	Oil	
11	Booker	Food	
12	Shandwick	Power/Print/Adv	
13	Dats	Industries A-D	
14	Office Elect Mach	Industries L-R	
15	Schley	Power/Discom	
16	Geni	Property	
17	Chlor Nite	Property	
18	Abbey	Building Roads	
19	Beaufort	Industries A-D	
20	Regalite	Property	
21	Ruton	Industries L-R	
22	GKN	Industries L-R	
23	Alton (P)	Property	
24	Lawrence (Water)	Building Roads	
25	SNIA BPD	Chemicals/Pet	
26	Cher Allen	Bank/Discom	
27	Amber Day	Property	
28	Amstar	Chemicals/Pet	
29	Davidson Plaste	Property	
30	Cumeyr Pcp	Industries A-D	
31	Walsingham Rink	Chemicals/Pet	
32	Chesford	Property	
33	Laird	Industries L-R	
34	Hambro Countrywide	Property	
35	Brown Boveri	Electronics	
36	General Motor	Motors/Aircraft	
37	Really Useful	Leisure	
38	Smith (WH) A	Property	
39	Cookson	Industries A-D	
40	Ford Motor	Motors/Aircraft	
41	Imry	Property	
42	Mesa Wire	Building Roads	
43	Steele Holdings	Leisure	
44	Greene King	Food	
45	Times Newspaper Ltd	Daily Total	

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £8,000 in today's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN

BRITISH FUNDS

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SHORTS (Under Five Years)

Prices in the section reflect Thursday's bid

Five to fifteen years

Over fifteen years

Index-linked

BANKS DISCOUNT HP

Electricals

Chemicals, Plastics

Cinemas and TV

Drapery and Stores

Hotels and Caterers

Industrials A-D

Oil

Newspapers and Publishers

Motors and Aircraft

Shoes and Leather

Textiles

Tobaccos

Shipping

Finance and Land

Food

Leisure

Insurance

Overseas Traders

Paper, Printing, Advertg

Property

Building and Roads

Breweries

Electricals

Chemicals, Plastics

Cinemas and TV

Drapery and Stores

Hotels and Caterers

Industrials A-D

Oil

Newspapers and Publishers

Motors and Aircraft

Shoes and Leather

Textiles

Tobaccos

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Equities running out of steam

(Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)
ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began Monday. Dealings end January 23. Contango day January 26. Settlement day February 2.
Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Where stocks have only one price quoted, these are middle prices taken daily at 5pm. Yield, change and P/E ratio are calculated on the middle price

No.	Company	Price	Yield	Change	P/E
1	Marston (W)	10.00	4.0%	0.00	10.0
2	AE	12.00	3.3%	0.00	12.0
3	RHM	15.00	2.7%	0.00	15.0
4	Wiggins	18.00	2.2%	0.00	18.0
5	Sci TV	20.00	2.0%	0.00	20.0

No.	Company	Price	Yield	Change	P/E
6	Portsmouth Steel	22.00	1.8%	0.00	22.0
7	Cambridge Elec	25.00	1.6%	0.00	25.0
8	Mogin	28.00	1.4%	0.00	28.0
9	Bowater	30.00	1.3%	0.00	30.0
10	New London Oil	32.00	1.2%	0.00	32.0

No.	Company	Price	Yield	Change	P/E
11	Booker	35.00	1.1%	0.00	35.0
12	Shandwick	38.00	1.0%	0.00	38.0
13	Dats	40.00	0.9%	0.00	40.0
14	Office Elect Mach	42.00	0.8%	0.00	42.0
15	Schley	45.00	0.7%	0.00	45.0

No.	Company	Price	Yield	Change	P/E
16	Geni	48.00	0.6%	0.00	48.0
17	Chlor Nite	50.00	0.5%	0.00	50.0
18	Abbey	52.00	0.4%	0.00	52.0
19	Beaufort	55.00	0.3%	0.00	55.0
20	Regalite	58.00	0.2%	0.00	58.0

No.	Company	Price	Yield	Change	P/E
21	Ruton	60.00	0.1%	0.00	60.0
22	GKN	62.00	0.1%	0.00	62.0
23	Alton (P)	65.00	0.1%	0.00	65.0
24	Lawrence (Water)	68.00	0.1%	0.00	68.0
25	SNIA BPD	70.00	0.1%	0.00	70.0

No.	Company	Price	Yield	Change	P/E
26	Cher Allen	72.00	0.1%	0.00	72.0
27	Amber Day	75.00	0.1%	0.00	75.0
28	Amstar	78.00	0.1%	0.00	78.0
29	Davidson Plaste	80.00	0.1%	0.00	80.0
30	Cumeyr Pcp	82.00	0.1%	0.00	82.0

No.	Company	Price	Yield	Change	P/E
31	Walsingham Rink	85.00	0.1%	0.00	85.0
32	Chesford	88.00	0.1%	0.00	88.0
33	Laird	90.00	0.1%	0.00	90.0
34	Hambro Countrywide	92.00	0.1%	0.00	92.0
35	Brown Boveri	95.00	0.1%	0.00	95.0

No.	Company	Price	Yield	Change	P/E
36	General Motor	98.00	0.1%	0.00	98.0
37	Really Useful	100.00	0.1%	0.00	100.0
38	Smith (WH) A	102.00	0.1%	0.00	102.0
39	Cookson	105.00	0.1%	0.00	105.0
40	Ford Motor	108.00	0.1%	0.00	108.0

No.	Company	Price	Yield	Change	P/E
41	Imry	110.00	0.1%	0.00	110.0
42	Mesa Wire	112.00	0.1%	0.00	112.0
43	Steele Holdings	115.00	0.1%	0.00	115.0
44	Greene King	118.00	0.1%	0.00	118.0
45	Times Newspaper Ltd	120.00	0.1%	0.00	120.0

No.	Company	Price	Yield	Change	P/E
46	Marston (W)	122.00	0.1%	0.00	122.0
47	AE	125.00	0.1%	0.00	125.0
48	RHM	128.00	0.1%	0.00	128.0
49	Wiggins	130.00	0.1%	0.00	130.0
50	Sci TV	132.00	0.1%	0.00	132.0

No.	Company	Price	Yield	Change	P/E
51	Portsmouth Steel	135.00	0.1%	0.00	135.0
52	Cambridge Elec	138.00	0.1%	0.00	138.0
53	Mogin	140.00	0.1%	0.00	140.0
54	Bowater	142.00	0.1%	0.00	142.0
55	New London Oil	145.00	0.1%	0.00	145.0

No.	Company	Price	Yield	Change	P/E
56	Booker	148.00	0.1%	0.00	148.0
57	Shandwick	150.00	0.1%	0.00	150.0
58	Dats	152.00	0.1%	0.00	152.0
59	Office Elect Mach	155.00	0.1%	0.00	155.0
60	Schley	158.00	0.1%	0.00	158.0

No.	Company	Price	Yield	Change	P/E
61	Geni	160.00	0.1%	0.00	160.0
62	Chlor Nite	162.00	0.1%	0.00	162.0
63	Abbey	165.00	0.1%	0.00	165.0
64	Beaufort	168.00	0.1%	0.00	168.0
65	Regalite	170.00	0.1%	0.00	170.0

No.	Company	Price	Yield	Change	P/E
66	Ruton	172.00	0.1%	0.00	172.0
67	GKN	175.00	0.1%	0.00	175.0
68	Alton (P)	178.00	0.1%	0.00	178.0
69	Lawrence (Water)	180.00	0.1%	0.00	180.0
70	SNIA BPD	182.00	0.1%	0.00	182.0

No.	Company	Price	Yield	Change	P/E
71	Cher Allen	185.00	0.1%	0.00	185.0
72	Amber Day	188.00	0.1%	0.00	188.0
73	Amstar	190.00	0.1%	0.00	190.0
74	Davidson Plaste	192.00	0.1%	0.00	192.0
75	Cumeyr Pcp	195.00	0.1%	0.00	195.0

No.	Company	Price	Yield	Change	P/E
76	Walsingham Rink	198.00	0.1%	0.00	198.0
77	Chesford	200.00	0.1%	0.00	200.0
78	Laird	202.00	0.1%	0.00	202.0
79	Hambro Countrywide	205.00	0.1%	0.00	205.0
80	Brown Boveri	208.00	0.1%	0.00	208.0

No.	Company	Price	Yield	Change	P/E
81	General Motor	210.00	0.1%	0.00	210.0
82	Really Useful	212.00	0.1%	0.00	212.0
83	Smith (WH) A	215.00	0.1%	0.00	215.0
84	Cookson	218.00	0.1%	0.00	218.0
85	Ford Motor	220.00	0.1%	0.00	220.0

No.	Company	Price	Yield	Change	P/E
86	Imry	222.00	0.1%	0.00	222.0
87	Mesa Wire	225.00	0.1%	0.00	225.0
88	Steele Holdings	228.00	0.1%	0.00	228.0
89	Greene King	230.00	0.1%	0.00	230.0
90	Times Newspaper Ltd	232.00	0.1%	0.00	232.0

No.	Company	Price	Yield	Change	P/E
91	Marston (W)	235.00	0.1%	0.00	235.0
92	AE	238.00	0.1%	0.00	238.0
93	RHM	240.00	0.1%	0.00	240.0
94	Wiggins	242.00	0.1%	0.00	242.0
95	Sci TV	245.00	0.1%	0.00	245.0

No.	Company	Price	Yield	Change	P/E
96	Portsmouth Steel	248.00	0.1%	0.00	248.0
97	Cambridge Elec	250.00	0.1%	0.00	250.0
98	Mogin	252.00	0.1%	0.00	252.0
99	Bowater	255.00	0.1%	0.00	255.0
100	New London Oil	258.00	0.1%	0.00	258.0

No.	Company	Price	Yield	Change	P/E
101	Booker	260.00	0.1%	0.00	260.0
102	Shandwick	262.00	0.1%	0.00	262.0
103	Dats	265.00	0.1%	0.00	265.0
104	Office Elect Mach	268.00	0.1%	0.00	268.0
105	Schley	270.00	0.1%	0.00	270.0

No.	Company	Price	Yield	Change	P/E
106	Geni	272.00	0.1%	0.00	272.0
107	Chlor Nite	275.00	0.1%	0.00	275.0
108	Abbey	278.00	0.1%	0.00	278.0
109	Beaufort	280.00	0.1%	0.00	280.0
110	Regalite	282.00	0.1%	0.00	282.0

1986 No	Low	Company	Price Sec	Yield Offer	Change On Sept 1	Score	70 %
82	69	Dynalco	79	81	2.9%	3.8	
488	47	Cumco Eng	485	491	1.2%	22.3	4.8
103	66	Cumco Eng	98	103	5.2%	4.6	4.8
36	30	Calchem	32	33	3.1%	1.4	4.3
87	3	Calchem & Shear	87	87	0.0%	0.0	0.0
424	4	Calchem & Shear	37	37	0.0%	0.0	0.0
101	12	Calchem & Shear	101	101	0.0%	0.0	0.0
118	10	Calchem & Shear	118	118	0.0%	0.0	0.0
327	285	Chrysler Corp	327	327	0.0%	0.0	0.0
327	285	Chrysler Corp	327	327	0.0%	0.0	0.0

Edited by Peter Gartland

FAMILY MONEY/1

Foul weather that can hit your pocket

The traditional British obsession with the weather has been fully justified this week as people all over the British Isles have struggled to get to work, to the shops and to schools.

In many counties the weather was the outright winner and even in areas where life continued close to normal, abandoned and broken-down cars have become a familiar sight and frozen water pipes a familiar hazard in many households.

There is certain to be a surge in car and house insurance claims and although the full extent of damage will not be known until after the thaw, some measure of the problem can be gauged from the Association of British Insurers, which represents the vast majority of UK insurance companies.

The ABI said this week that in the bad winter of 1981-82, when nationwide Arctic weather was followed by flooding, UK insurance companies paid out £308 million in claims for property damage over and above the "normal" claims pattern.

There are two main points that people need to keep firmly in mind if they are unfortunate enough to suffer damage to their house or car during the bad weather.

The first concerns what immediate action you should take. The second relates to what you should do if your insurance company cuts up rough either on the amount of money it is prepared to offer in settlement of a claim or, indeed, whether it will entertain some claims at all.

The point to remember is that household buildings and contents policies as well as car insurance policies are complex documents drafted in precise legal form.

Because of all the possible things that may be covered or may not be covered, these policies are generally far more wordy and far more complicated than the average life insurance policy, which is concerned only with whether you are alive or dead.

In other words there could be some nasty exclusion clause shocks in store for

people when it comes to making claims.

But before coming to that, let us start with what immediate action householders should take if they have suffered weather-related damage.

First, they should contact their insurance company, broker or agent as soon as possible and take any steps necessary to minimize further damage. Emergency repairs will normally be accepted as part of a weather damage claim, and bills should be kept in case your insurance company wants to see them.

Even before disaster strikes you can carry out some pre-

One in four without contents insurance

sonal risk management. First of all do you have insurance cover at all? If you are buying your house on mortgage the chances are that you will have buildings insurance. The building society or bank you borrowed from will have seen to that.

But it remains the case that one household in four does not have contents insurance. So, if you do not have contents insurance take out a policy now for future protection, although it stands to reason that any policy you take out now will not cover you for any damage which has already occurred.

Even if you do have a contents policy, is your sum insured adequate? Household contents policies come in two forms — indemnity and replacement-as-new.

Under an indemnity-type policy the amount of cover should be the cost of replacing everything in the house as new (not forgetting the contents of the garage and garden shed), less an allowance for wear and tear and depreciation.

Replacement-as-new policies cover the cost of replacing furniture, carpets, domestic appliances, televisions, radios and similar equipment with equivalent new articles. Clothing and household linen can normally be insured on this basis.

Damage from storms and flood to both the structure and contents of the home are covered by buildings and contents policies respectively. Storm and flood damage to gates and fences, however, is not covered.

Your policy may stipulate that you have to pay the first £25 or £50 of every claim for damage to your house caused by storm, flood and burst pipes.

But although damage by storm and flood is covered under household policies, insurance companies can sometimes be quite strict in interpreting what is meant by storm or flood.

The insurers' advice

● **FREEZING PIPES:** Turn off the main stop valve. To thaw the pipe use hot water bottles or a thick cloth soaked in hot water; alternatively, use a fan heater or electric hairdrier, but with great care. Never use a naked flame. Start at the end of the pipe nearest a tap and work away from it. If any part of a hot water system is frozen, there is an explosion risk if the boiler is kept alight.

● **BURST PIPES:** Turn off the main stop valve. If the burst is on a pipe leading from a storage tank, try to stop water flowing out of that tank. If you cannot stop the flow, open all hot water taps to drain the system. Don't open hot taps as the hot water cylinder could collapse if pipes feeding it are frozen. Turn off the central heating and let a solid fuel heater die down. Switch off the immersion heater. Collect water in the bath for washing and flushing the WC.

● **STORM DAMAGE:** Use tarpaulins, plastic sheeting or hardboard to keep out the weather. Clear snow from your loft before it can melt and damage ceilings. Check for loose debris likely to fall from roofs, chimneys and gutters. When the weather improves check gutters for blockages.

● **FLOODING:** Flood water can make buildings unsafe, so check for new cracks in the walls. Do not use electricity or gas or drink tap water until the authorities tell you it is safe. Remove floor coverings and wash walls and floors with disinfectant and clean water. Leave windows, doors and built-in cupboards open. Keep rooms heated, (when it is safe to do so), leaving windows open for moist warm air to escape. Try to lift one or two floorboards to increase under-floor draughts. Pull furniture away from walls. Don't be in a hurry to redecorate. It can take months for the place to dry out completely.

After the snows: The Christmas card scene that could mean trouble for a householder

In a case referred to the Insurance Ombudsman Bureau it was held that when a rainstorm finally destroyed the surface of a driveway, which could not in any event have lasted much longer, the real cause of the damage was deterioration rather than an insured risk.

Insurance companies are fond of pointing out that what they offer is insurance, not a contract of maintenance. So anything that comes under the general heading of "gradual deterioration" will not be covered.

But suppose, for example, the roof of your house collapses under the weight of snow, causing not only structural damage but also damage to your worldly possessions?

It is far from clear whether all insurers will cover you for this kind of damage, particularly if the roof has collapsed under the unrelenting pressure of a week or more's accumulation of snow. Two of Britain's biggest insurers, Prudential and Sun Alliance, which have around five million buildings and contents policyholders between them, took a guarded approach to this point when we spoke to them this week.

According to the Pru, every snow damage case would be considered sympathetically on its own merits. If the roof was sound there would be a valid weather claim but "it is something that would have to be investigated."

Over at Sun Alliance the response was that snow damage causing the roof to collapse would be covered under the general heading of "storm damage" but that such a claim would call for a survey and a lack of maintenance.

If the snow or ice falls off your roof rather than through it and injures a passer-by, your legal liability is covered, usually up to £250,000.

Which brings us to frost damage. Frost damage is excluded under both buildings and contents policies. It is as simple as that.

Under a comprehensive car policy, weather-related dam-

age is normally covered but if you have neglected to put in anti-freeze, the insurance company might say that you have not taken reasonable precautions, and turn your claim down.

If you have a run-of-the-mill household claim you are unlikely to encounter any problem with your insurance company beyond possibly some bargaining over the final settlement figure.

If your claim is likely to run into thousands of pounds, the chances are that the insurance company will appoint a loss assessor. The loss assessor's job is to see fair play between

Loss assessor can be expensive

the insurance company and its policyholder — but some people find this hard to swallow whole as the loss assessor's fee is invariably paid by the insurance company.

If you think a loss assessor is going to give you a rough ride you can appoint your own advocate to do battle on your behalf. He is called a loss assessor. But beware. You could be embarking on an expensive business. A loss assessor will normally charge you a fee of 10 per cent of the settlement value of your claim.

Peter Gartland

The frie after you

PRUDENTIAL

PRUDENTIAL

PRUDENTIAL

PRUDENTIAL

PRUDENTIAL

These figures refer to Thursday's trading

■ For our article on the best antique buys for 1987 in last Saturday's Family Money, we were told that a Queen Anne Bureau had been sold for £17,000. We have been asked to point out that the correct sale figure was £31,000.

TT 17/18

of their own marketing costs. Hence the unit allocation in a policy's first year is at a reduced level, between 25 and 55 per cent of the contribution.

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Riches from poor relation

Fed up with the snow? Bored with the January sales? There is a major international art fair in London next week. Even if you cannot get there yourself, ARDA LACEY paints this preview picture.

This year's fair, the second, is being opened at noon next Wednesday by the Duchess of York, who herself worked in an art gallery. A queue can be expected!

Watercolour, a well-attested British medium, was once regarded as the poor relation of oil. No longer. By the late 18th century, the grouping of talented watercolourists had changed the entire art scene.

Watercolour is now a medium in its own right. It can offer "devastating effects of light, unaffected breadth, clearness of tone, general harmony and atmospheric effect", particularly suited to the British countryside. J.M.W. Turner, topographical draughtsman turned visionary, proved this to everlasting fame.

In the mainstream, both in watercolours and drawings, you have names such as John Robert Cozens, Thomas Girtin, William Callow (Leger Galleries stand), John Varley, 1778-1842 (Moss Gallery and Milne & Moller), David Cox, 1783-1859 (Anthony Reed), Peter de Wint, 1784-1849 (Spinks), Paul Sandby, 1730-1809 (William Drummond), *inter alia* down to the modern Hockney, much sought after by museums and the big collectors.

The dealer Jeremy Maas, chairman of the fair, however, suggests to those collectors whose wallets do not extend to such important names: "Don't be tunnel-visioned, as



A picture of innocence: Carlton Alfred Smith's 'A Pebble in her Shoe', exhibited by Fine Art Petworth. The price: £5,000.

Among the most popular drawings and watercolours are those of the Victorian professional-amateur, Queen Victoria left a collection that will be the subject of one of four lectures to be given at the fair. Look out also for the frivolous cartoons of Thomas Rowlandson, Edward Lear and others - well worth collecting!

Perhaps the most exciting news to shake the world of watercolours was the recent discovery of a missing catalogued Dadd at the first televised BBC *Antique Road Show* of 1987. A strange and beautifully-detailed Eastern scene, painted from memory when Richard Dadd was later in a mental institution, turned up.

In his day, world travellers had no cameras and would often engage a professional artist to record flora and fauna, scenery and people encountered on their journeying, when unable to draw themselves.

A major collector, Sir Thomas Phillips, engaged Dadd. The picture was brought to the *Antique Road Show* at Barnstaple, Devon, by a modest couple, who were visibly shaken when the expert asked to take it to London to confirm that it was a

missing national masterpiece and could be worth about £100,000. This should raise interest in any other Dadd that may turn up in the market.

Rarity is another point to watch. Some artists, such as Gwen John, have only a small output.

Of course, the Dadd painting is a once-in-a-lifetime find and buyers should not be carried away by the thought that they will make their fortune in buying or inheriting an unknown picture. If you love it enough not to want the temptation of replacing it, it may pay you to remain ignorant! However, you may want to know for insurance purposes - and that can prove a headache too.

With 2,000 works, covering all the schools and styles from early British watercolours and Old Master drawings to modern paintings, one is spoilt for choice. There are 50 leading galleries selling some of whom have already been mentioned, including three from abroad: Ivo Bouwman, from The Hague, Sven Brunjen, from San Francisco, and Galerie Arnold-Livie, from Munich.

Among the 12 new exhibitors this year will be Spinks, Gillian Jason, David Messum, Abbot & Holder and Walker Bagshawe.

If you are too bewildered to buy, the answer is don't. But make a note of the dealer's name and address in case you want to make contact at a later date. On the other hand, unlike exhibitions where pictures remain until the closing date, here you can take your purchase away immediately - brown paper and string provided - so he or she who hesitates, can lose out.

There are two important loan exhibitions connected with this art fair. First, there is

Specially assembled for the fair

a group of five drawings by Thomas Gainsborough, considered by many as the greatest English draughtsman of the 18th century. This display has been arranged by the curator of Gainsborough's House in Sudbury, Suffolk, birthplace of the artist.

Incidentally, it is open to the public by appointment. Telephone 0787 72958 and ask for the curator, Hugh Belsey.

There is also "Travellers Abroad", specially assembled for the fair by the Royal Society of Painters in Watercolours from their Diploma Collection.

Finally, for my money and because I have a desire to encourage young artists who are having such a struggle today, I shall be looking at



The Duchess of York opening the art fair

their work. So much talent is surfacing. Possibly tomorrow's big names.

Austin Desmond's stand at the fair will be showing work from £45. The Fulham Gallery price range of life painters will be from £50 to £500 and half their stock will be under £250. Names to look out for are

Scholarships will be awarded

Lindsay Bartholomew, Val Archer, Janet Shea, Pandora Smith, Michael Chase, Ian Armour-Chelu, Sue Kavanagh and Dennis Roxy-Bott.

Two awards will be made during the fair for the travel scholarships to students at Camberwell School of Arts & Crafts taking the BA (Hons) degree in the "History of Drawing and the Conservation of Art on Paper" courses for which Camberwell is renowned.

Whatever your choice, you can be assured, according to Jeremy Maas, that "every work displayed has been vetted for authenticity and attribution". He says: "There is no date line. The only criterion is 'excellence'."

LECTURES

"Understanding Watercolours", Huon Mallalieu, author, editor of *Watercolours and Drawings*, the magazine for collectors, Thursday, January 22, 2.30pm.

"The Drawings of Thomas Gainsborough, RA", Lindsay Stainton, Assistant Keeper, Department of Prints, Thursday, January 22, 6pm.

"Queen Victoria's Collection of Watercolours", Lady Della Miller, author of the forthcoming catalogue of Victorian watercolours in the Royal Collection, Friday, January 23, 2.30pm.

"The Watercolour Through the Artist's Eye", Ley Kenyon, DFC, artist, art teacher and lecturer, Saturday, January 24, 2.30pm.

Any one lecture £10 - this includes catalogue and admission to the fair. Every additional lecture £5. Apply to The World of Drawings and Watercolours, 18 St George Street, Hanover Square, London W1 (01-491 8806).

VENUE

The Park Lane Hotel, London W1.

TIMES OF OPENING

Wednesday, January 21, to Sunday, January 25, 11am to 8pm (last day 7pm).

ADMISSION CHARGES

Wednesday, January 21: 11am to 2pm, £10 (half the gate will go towards the two scholarships); 3pm to 8pm, £5. All other days and times, £5.

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FAMILY MONEY/4

Keeping the profits in the club

Investment clubs are beginning to take off around the country. But what are they and how do they work? JOE IRVING explains

In the past 12 months membership of the National Association of Investment Clubs (NAIC) has shot up by more than 200 to 760. The upsurge is caused partly by the easy money privatization issues of recent times and the Government's general campaign to promote share ownership.

There are scores of other clubs which are not members of the NAIC. Hilary McMullin, who handles the day-to-day running of the association at its Liverpool headquarters, says: "Many new clubs have probably not yet heard of us."

Inquiries, she says, are also pouring in from individuals wishing to join an existing club. One of her jobs is to match requests with convenient club vacancies.

Investment clubs are virtually do-it-yourself unit trusts in which neighbours, friends or workmates pool their investment ideas and cash to buy a spread of equities. But the object is to make money, an investment club's main benefit is to provide a way of gaining first-hand experience in stock market investment at an affordable risk.

The idea of investment clubs is not new. It spread from the United States where the first club was set up in Texas near the end of the last century. The movement is now world-wide, with clubs in Africa, Australia, Canada, Europe and Scandinavia.

In Britain the NAIC has been providing backing to launch investment clubs for nearly 30 years. All the technicalities are set out in a simple form in the association's low-cost manual, which also contains a lot of useful general information about stock market investment. There are no share tips, and neither does the NAIC monitor the investment performance of any club.

An investment club may be started as an offshoot of another social organization, for instance, a tennis or bridge club, but there are some recruiting pitfalls that people should watch out for.

Nothing causes more bickering than issues where money is involved, so it is essential that all the members of an investment club get on well enough with one another to

accept majority decisions and, if need be, rejection of their personal preferences with good grace.

Some people who like to think they know a little more than others find this hard to take. A financial journalist colleague said: "I used to be a member of an investment club, but I couldn't get used to the idea of amateurs deciding where to invest my money."

The club was obviously better off without him. However, a member with investment or other relevant skill such as banking or taxation can be a real asset, so long as

members' homes where space is limited.

An advantage of company status is that shares can be registered in the name of a corporate body, but not a partnership. This means that partnership holdings have to be registered either in the names of individual members or in the name of a specialist nominee company.

Although two or three members are normally more workable, there is nothing to stop all the members of a club being trustees — each perhaps responsible for a different holding. But this can become complicated as the portfolio

though they do not always offer nominee services. Some may restrict the service to selected customers.

Shopping around advice applies also to the choice of institution where funds are to be lodged pending investment. Most club treasurers would incline towards a bank, but building societies may offer a better deal, particularly now that they are beginning to offer full banking services, including loans, for other than house purchase.

In fact, one advantage an investment club has over a unit trust is that it can borrow money on the security of its holdings to buy additional shares. This gives it the benefit of gearing in the same way as a quoted investment company — not, however, a practice to be recommended to beginners. More pertinent is the edge on interest rates that a well-chosen building society account may offer.

No one should expect to make a stock market killing through an investment club, which should be regarded more as a learning and leisure activity than as a money-spinner.

The initial fund can be as little as £500, but to acquire a reasonable spread of shares around five times that amount is necessary. If it is not available the portfolio can be built up with monthly contributions only with cash that can be afforded.

It is no good investing money that is going to be needed to pay the gas bill, especially if the club's investment policy is speculative and its shares not readily salable.

Investment strategy is something that needs to be settled at the outset, preferably when recruiting club members. It is important that everyone should be in tune with the investment aims and objectives.

Members with a racoonise instinct should remember that the place for a gamble is the betting shop. Investment is about balanced judgment, based on painstaking research and the patience to wait for results.

** National Association of Investment Clubs, Halifax House, 5 Fenwick Street, Liverpool L2 0PR*

Watchdog wary over investors' ombudsman

The Consumers' Association has expressed serious reservations about the plan to set up an Investors' Ombudsman.

The proposal was made by the Securities and Investments Board last month and, although the association has welcomed the idea in principle, it is particularly concerned that control seems to be vested in a board which could consist entirely of those who are regulated under the legislation.

The association's deputy director Rosemary McRobert says this is totally unacceptable. The association's support for any ombudsman scheme turns on provision for a council with a majority of independent members.

The association finds the lack of independence in the SIB proposal particularly worrying. It argues that there is no way in which such an industry-dominated board could be seen as likely to pursue recalcitrant investment businesses with the vigour required, however great the probability of the practitioner members. The scheme would be judged as flawed from the start.

The association's solution is to change the structure so that the SIB appoints a council of six or eight members, with an independent chairman and an overall majority of independent members. The association also says it would be a major weakness if the ombudsman's decision were not binding on the investment business concerned, and that the business could still have recourse to the courts.

The reservations also extend to the time it will take for decisions to be reached. The association accepts that an investor's complaint must be taken first to the investment business concerned, and that the internal complaints mechanisms must be fully explored. However, the possibility that

the complaint would then be investigated by not only the SIB but also possibly the relevant self-regulating organization (SRO) makes complaints-handling too complicated, long drawn-out and wasteful of resources.

It is not uncommon, says the association, for a final decision to be reached on an ombudsman-level complaint to take a year. If an SRO or the SIB takes an equivalent time, and if the ombudsman does not then rubber-stamp the SRO's or SIB's decision but makes his own independent investigation,

Association wants different structure

tion, it may take up to two years for the settlement of a complaint.

What is wanted instead is a structure whereby, after a full investigation by the investment business, an investor should be free to take his case to the Investment Ombudsman, or to the courts. The ombudsman would have the task first and foremost of dealing with individual complaints. But he would also alert the SIB and the relevant SRO in circumstances where he thought regulations were being broken or were inadequate.

The SIB and SROs would be kept informed of complaints to the ombudsman so that they could take disciplinary action if needed.

The association concedes to the argument that the SIB and the SROs would be failing in their requirement to investigate complaints adequately if they did not investigate every complaint before it went to the ombudsman, it points out that this duty would be discharged by setting up and funding the Investment Ombudsman scheme.

Peter Gartland

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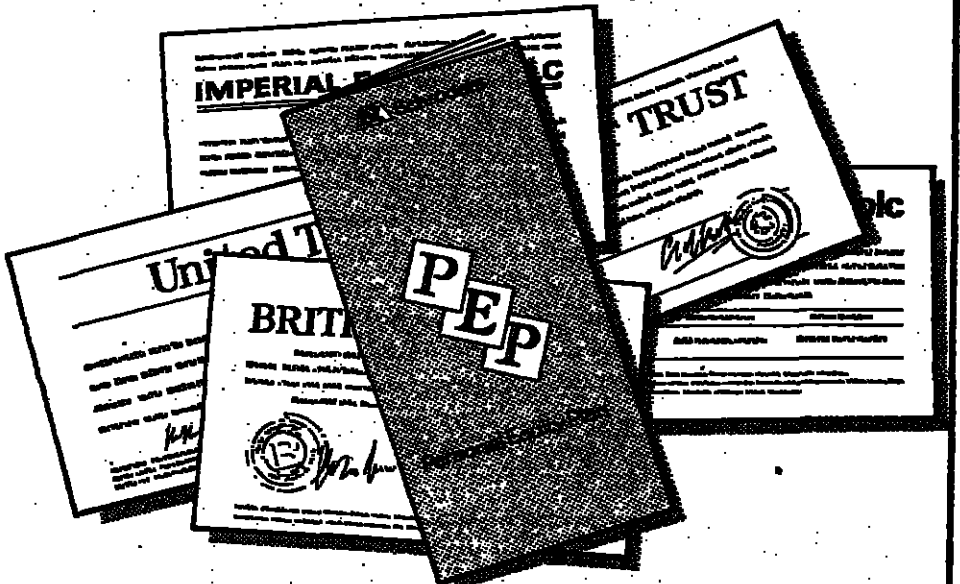
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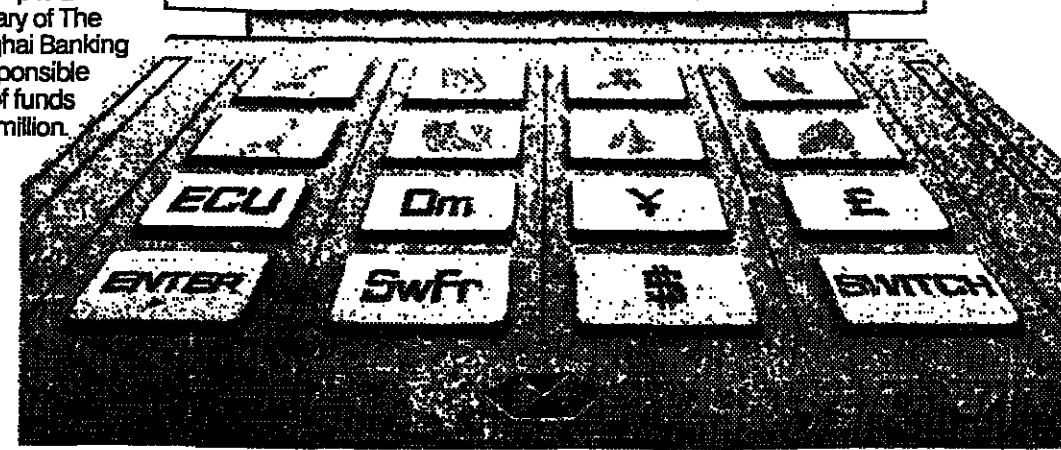
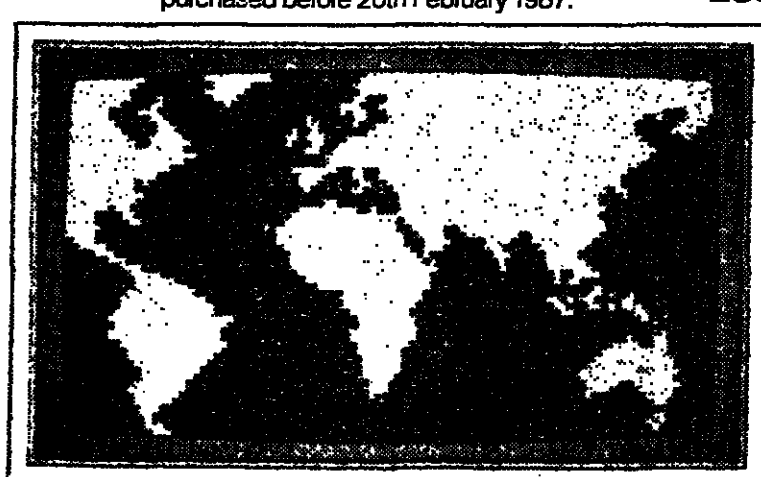
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The City conservatives

In his analysis of the changing role of the financial institutions, JOHN ROBERTS puts Hill Samuel under the microscope



Hill Samuel chiefs: Richard Wales, left, and Roger Kitson

"The product-driven approach is particularly prevalent in the financial sector," says Roger Kitson, chairman of Hill Samuel Unit Trust Managers.

"People have been inclined to devote the financial product which suited the City and then try to sell it, rather than finding out what people want and devising the financial product to meet their needs and desires. This attitude has persisted partly because of the regulatory framework."

The trouble is, from South Sea Bubble promises of riches beyond the dreams of avarice to Bernie Cornfeld's Investors Overseas Service, offering investors what they want has not always matched up to delivering it.

Can Hill Samuel deliver? What does it think we want? "Our research into what people want pointed up an important difference between the great majority of people in this country and the attitudes of Americans," Mr Kitson told me.

The Americans are keen to increase their wealth, to get rich.

"There are exceptions, of course, but in this country most people are concerned to preserve their capital and maintain their real incomes."

This perception of our character has led Hill Samuel to emphasize conservative aspects of its offering, consistency of investment performance, and that its management of financial affairs includes, for instance, tax planning.

Thus the Reserve Fund, launched last year, is really no more than a brand-name-giving exercise to Hill Samuel's various insurance and investment media, ranging from unit trusts and life assurance to personal pension plans. The emphasis is on security — safeguarding in-

come and conserving capital — rather than "super-whizzbang" aggressive performance.

None of the examples it gives, from a linked mortgage scheme for the home-buyer to retirement plans and an inheritance tax-minimizing scheme, assumes growth rates greater than that achieved by the Hill Samuel Managed Fund.

There, £1,000 invested 10 years ago would be worth about £3,500 today, beating inflation by almost 50 per cent. If it failed to beat the general rise in share prices, that is because the essence of a managed fund is in forging the extremes of markets in both directions.

Trying to catch young investors

As one of the City's largest merchant banks, Hill Samuel has a spread of activities from true (money-lending) banking to employee benefit services, insurance broking, shipping, and investment management, strengthened by the take-over of the leading stockbroking firm, Wood Mackenzie.

The group, as a whole, manages investments totalling more than £10,000 million. Apart from the US Smaller Companies Trust — launched last September and with investment management by Investment Advisers Inc. acquired in January 1986 — the group has 16 unit trusts. These divide into two groups: eight started between 1958 and 1972 with funds today of more than £450 million, and a further eight, totalling more than £200 million in funds,

begin between 1979 and 1983. Curiously, just as there was that seven-year gap, the group has sat out the unit trust industry's bid for forming new funds in recent years.

But a consequence of its fund demography is that with sales in earlier years having been pitched towards the then middle-aged, Hill Samuel has more recently suffered a high rate of attrition in its older funds as investors have begun to draw down capital on retirement.

Now, like so many other financial services groups, it is trying to catch 'em young. The medium is unoriginal — estate agents' offices.

Others such as the Prudential, Lloyds Bank and Nationwide have either bought or are buying such firms.

But Richard Wales, managing director of Hill Samuel Unit Trust Managers, says: "The figures being paid for estate agent firms are ridiculous. People are buying into a business they don't understand and paying through the nose."

He could have added that the assets can walk out of the door, and the cost of setting up from scratch is relatively low.

Hill Samuel has, instead, installed salesmen in estate agents' offices to sit there as personal finance advisers. Agents bearing the fearful thunder of Black Horse hoofs and keen to preserve their independence, have responded positively to the arrangements.

For Hill Samuel it presents a valuable opportunity to catch new customers early in their financial careers.

Richard Wales explains:

"The most important entry point for investment purposes is when a young person buys their own house. We are ready to arrange a mortgage."

"But you also get people who are trading down in property as they retire, releasing capital they will want to invest. And there are those inheriting houses they want to sell and who will invest the proceeds."

For the moment there will be a stockbroker in every district office able to give a full advisory service or to offer investors a no-frills-dealing-only service.

But Wood Mackenzie, while valuing its private clients, was more noted for the quality of its investment research supplied to big investors such as insurance companies and pension funds.

It has for many years been the most highly regarded firm for its research on investment trusts and that is now being developed for a service sold to small investors.

A discretionary investment service launched last November offers two portfolios. That

Income portfolio evenly divided

invested in investment trusts with a small unit trust exposure to give participation in mainland Europe. The income portfolio will be evenly divided between investment and unit trusts.

The principle for both is that Wood Mackenzie will use its skills in the sector to get into investment trust shares, which are at a large discount to asset value, and switch to unit trusts when the discount narrows.

There is also the potential gain to be derived from investment trusts being restructured, or — as has often been the case — taken over. How Wood Mackenzie fares in switching out of an investment trust where the discount has narrowed, without missing the benefits of a take-over, we shall see.

The best way to buy if you want to sell

Buying a house can be a trauma enough. Buying a shop is worse. There are many places where you can live, far fewer where you can create a cash flow.

So before looking for suitable premises, decide whether they are physically necessary. Service jobs such as mail order, computing, cleaning, typing, even desktop publishing, can begin from your own home. So can small crafts such as painting, knitting and toy-making.

Painters can arrange exhibitions of their work by hiring space in tea shops or pubs and get help (at a price) from banks and insurance companies to do so. Such ventures act as a showcase but will not give the same response as opening a shop.

Galleries generally go only to artists who gain approval of the "hanging" body, for cheap and sought-after "pitches".

By contrast, decorating, carpentry and similar skills can be advertised in newspapers and shops. One successful catering business began by delivering sandwiches to computer staff working the night shift.

While you look for a shop but work at home, make sure that you cause no nuisance to neighbours — loud noises, car parking etc. — that the title deeds of your house have no restricting covenants, and that you are adequately insured.

If you are becoming a shopkeeper for the first time, working in a store or on a market stall will provide practical tips.

Having come to the conclusion that the demand for your product or service is big enough to merit shop premises, begin your search.

Position, position, position are the three most important factors affecting the value of a house. They also affect the value of a shop, but less so, because much depends on the nature of the business and proprietor. Goodwill may be intangible, but it is very valuable.

One stock is not like another even in the same line of business. Some items sell quickly. Others are just dead-wood which do not pay for their keep and take up space. This is particularly true of fashion, which embraces a

very wide range of goods, from sportswear to toys. Your own experience should enable you to negotiate terms.

Be careful that the catchment area of an existing shop has not recently changed. A good estate agent should be able to tell you of development plans in the area, but look around. New buildings, whether of sheltered homes or council estates, can make a great difference to the number and type of customer. So too can the emergence of vandalism. This is not always obvious, especially in side streets. If in doubt, ask the local police.

Shops selling hi-fi, leather and sports goods, bicycles and

Wording of a lease is important

accessories are very vulnerable to break-ins in certain areas, and insurance, though available, may be barely affordable. Ask for quotes.

If you are going for an empty shop in an area that you know well, decide whether freehold or leasehold will suit you better. Leaseholds, being a wasting asset, naturally come cheaper. A short one enables you to try your luck and get out, if need be, without too much loss. But if you do well, you will have to negotiate another term with the landlord, usually at a higher rent.

Security of tenure is given to a leaseholder through the Landlord and Tenant Act (Business Premises), but it is nothing like as firm as for a residential letting. The landlord can refuse to renew a lease if the lessee has not

carried out certain obligations under the lease such as repairs and maintenance.

Constant delay in payment of rent, misuse or mismanagement of the premises are other breaches which may prevent renewal of a lease. Far more difficult to overcome are situations where the landlord wants the premises for his own purposes.

The wording of the lease is important, too. Even when planning consent for a change of use is obtained from the local council, the landlord may prohibit certain trades such as betting shops or wine bars. If there are no such restrictions and the new leaseholder wants a change of use, he must apply for it to the local council with a plan of the shop.

Retail trades are usually unopposed, though not all of them are considered "appropriate" to a shopping area under Town and Country Planning (Use Classes Order). Some examples of possible restrictions are a garage, a laundrette, licensed premises or an amusement arcade.

You must usually provide two references if the leaseholder is selling before the lease runs out, as is often the case. This is because the original tenant is technically responsible for the whole period of the lease. If there is any default by "intervening" leaseholders, the landlord can recover the dues from the original tenant or any guarantors.

Freeholds are immune from the hazards of insecurity of tenure, but hard to find in high streets, where they are being taken over increasingly by building societies, estate agents and multiples. As they are also expensive, a freehold shop in a minor but well used road may be the answer. If it has residential accommodation this helps in two ways.

You will be able to find cheaper finance for the operation, though you will get far less than for a house mortgage. About 70 per cent of valuation is the rule, and repayment will be higher too. But the accommodation will often increase in value, especially in a good area, and may ultimately be worth more than the shop.

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(If more than one applicant all must sign)

Fidelity MAKING MONEY MAKE MONEY

GENERAL INFORMATION: A contract note for your application together with a letter will be sent immediately. Certificate will be sent within 6 days. The current estimated gross value is not at the offer price of £0.90 per Fidelity European Trust unit at 14th Jan. 1987. Accumulation units only will be issued. An initial charge of 5% (equivalent to 5% of the offer price) is included in the price of units out of which the Managers will pay 1% to the Trustees and 4% to the Managers. The annual charge is currently 1% plus 0.5% A.T. but the Managers have the right to change this within the above range, subject to prior notice. The Managers hereby note that the annual management charge for Fidelity European Trust will be increased to 1.5% plus 0.5% A.T. from 1st March 1987. Units may be sold on any day at the prevailing market price. Cheques will be issued within 14 days of receipt of your payment order. A back-saver investment plan is available. The Financial Times, Group F.P. and the Financial Mail. Required Company No. 201655. (Incorporated in the Republic of Ireland). Fidelity Investment Services Limited, Registered Office: River Walk, Tonbridge, Kent TN9 1DW. The Trust is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Fidelity Investments Limited, which is not a resident of the Republic of Ireland.

FAMILY MONEY/8

Investors warned over BES cash call

Investors have been warned not to put money into a company which is seeking to raise £2.5 million under the Business Expansion Scheme.

The warning comes from BES Investment Research Ltd, which specialises in analysing new BES issues. It says Kephassian Leisure plc, of Banbury, Oxfordshire, is looking for the money to purchase an existing business (The Cartwright Arms in Aylesbury, Northamptonshire) from two of its executive directors (and a third party) in exchange for 1,750,000 shares in Kephassian, and from that base to build a group of hotels, public houses, nightclubs and discotheques.

It is alleged that the prospectus has been issued "with total disregard to a number of the mandatory requirements of the Companies Act 1985". BES Investment Research adds: "We do not consider the venture commercially sound."

BES Investment Research says a property valuation used in a prospectus should be not more than six months old. The Kephassian valuation report is dated April 1986. BES Investment Research says the age of the valuation coupled with the failure to specify the goodwill makes it difficult for an investor to try to form his own opinion of the value.

BES Investment Research also says it is a company law requirement that where a statement purporting to be made by an expert has been reproduced in the prospectus, it must be stated that he has given and not withdrawn his consent for its inclusion. No consents have been reproduced in the Kephassian prospectus.

BES Investment Research adds that under Section 64 of the 1985 Companies Act, it is required that the prospectus be lodged with the Registrar of Companies before its public issue. This had not been done. Kephassian's spokesman agreed yesterday that it was questionable whether goodwill had been fully detailed in the value's report. He also commented that the expert statement consent had been "regrettably omitted". He said the prospectus had been submitted to the Registrar of Companies, albeit not until December 29, 1986, whereas the prospectus had been available to the public before Christmas.

Peter Gartland

INTEREST RATES ROUND-UP

	Return at tax rates			Min/max		
	25%	45%	60%	Investment £	Notice	Contact
BANKS						
Deposit A/c:						
Barclays	5.00	3.87	2.82	1 min	7 day	01-626 1567
Lloyds	5.00	3.87	2.82	1 min	7 day	01-626 1500
National Westminster	5.00	3.87	2.82	1 min	7 day	01-626 1000
Midland	5.00	3.87	2.82	1 min	7 day	01-260 8000
TSB	5.00	3.87	2.82	1 min	7 day	01-600 8000
National Girobank	5.00	3.87	2.82	1 min	7 day	01-600 6020
Fixed Term Deposits:						
National Westminster	7.63	5.91	4.30	10,000-24,999	1 mth	01-726 1000
" "	7.38	5.72	4.16	10,000-24,999	3 mth	01-726 1000
" "	7.38	5.72	4.16	10,000-24,999	6 mth	01-726 1000

BUILDING SOCIETIES							
Ordinary A/c	6.00	4.65	3.38	1 min			
MONEY FUNDS							
Altkan Home Monthly Income	7.66	5.93	4.32	1,000 min		01-638 6070	
Bank Of Scotland	7.66	5.93	4.32	2,500 min		01-626 8060	
Barclays High Rate Deposit	7.13	5.62	4.02	1,000 min		01-626 1567	
Cater Allen Call	7.63	5.91	4.30	10,000 min		01-626 2777	
HFC Trust	7.66	5.93	4.32	2,500 min		01-626 8381	
Henderson Money Mkt Chq A/c	7.66	5.93	4.32	2,500 min		01-638 5757	
L & G High Interest Deposit	8.15	6.31	4.59	1,000 min	1 mth	01-388 3211	
Lloyds HICA	7.70	5.96	4.34	2,500 min		01-626 1500	
M&G HICA	7.66	5.93	4.32	2,500 min		01-626 4588	
Midland HICA	7.45	5.77	4.20	2,000 min		0742 52800	
" "	7.70	5.96	4.34	10,000 min		01-726 1000	
Nat West High Int Special Res	7.63	5.91	4.30	2,000 min		01-726 1000	
" "	7.75	6.00	4.37	10,000 min		01-236 9362	
Oppenheimer Money Mgmt A/c	7.75	6.00	4.37	1,000 min	1 mth	01-236 9362	
Tullet & Riley 7-day	7.81	6.05	4.40	2,500 min	7 day	0272 732241	
Tullet & Riley 7-day	7.92	6.14	4.46	2,500 min	7 day	0272 732241	
Tyndall 7-day	7.87	6.10	4.44	5,000 min	7 day	01-626 4681	
UDT 7-day	7.75	6.00	4.37	5,000 min	7 day	0752 261161	
Western Trust	8.22	6.37	4.63	2,500 min	1 mth		

NATIONAL SAVINGS							
Investment A/c	8.34	6.46	4.70	5-100,000	1 mth	041-6494555	
Income Bond	8.70	6.74	4.90	2,000-100,000	3 mth	0253 86151	
Deposit Bond	8.70	6.74	4.90	100-100,000	3 mth	041-6494555	
Income Investment Bond	8.58	6.40	4.62	5,000-100,000	3 mth	0253 86151	
32nd Issue Certificate	8.75	6.75	4.95	25-5,000	8 day	0385 64900	
Yearly Plan	8.84	6.84	5.04	20-200 a mth	14 day		
General Extension Rate	8.70	6.70	4.90				

GUARANTEED INCOME BONDS							
General Portfolio	9.25	7.17	5.21	1,000 min	1 yr		
General Portfolio	9.10	7.05	5.13	1,000 min	2 yrs		
General Portfolio	9.10	7.05	5.13	1,000 min	3 yrs		
New Direction Finance	8.55	6.82	4.82	1,000 min	4 yrs		
New Direct Fin/Credit & Comm	9.30	7.20	5.24	1,000 min	5 yrs		

LOCAL AUTHORITY TOWN HALL BONDS							
Leicester	7.57	5.86	3.31	500 min	1 yr	01-638 6361	
Kirkcaldy	8.38	6.49	4.72	500 min	2 yrs	01-638 6361	
Kirkcaldy	8.38	6.49	4.72	500 min	3 yrs	01-638 6361	
Kirkcaldy	8.38	6.49	4.72	500 min	4 yrs	01-638 6361	
Nottingham	8.20	6.35	4.62	500 min	5 yrs	01-638 6361	
Nottingham	8.20	6.35	4.62	500 min	6 yrs	01-638 6361	
Nottingham	8.20	6.35	4.62	500 min	7 yrs	01-638 6361	
Vale of Glamorgan	6.13	4.75	3.45	500 min	8 yrs	01-638 6361	
Taff Ely	6.21	4.81	3.50	1,000 min	9 yrs	01-638 6361	
Taff Ely	6.21	4.81	3.50	1,000 min	10 yrs	01-638 6361	

FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSITS							
Sterling	10.11				7 day	0481 26741	
US Dollar	5.34				7 day	0481 26741	
Yen	3.22				7 day	0481 26741	
D-Mark	3.75				7 day	0481 26741	
French Franc	7.69				7 day	0481 26741	
Swiss Franc	2.44				7 day	0481 26741	

Interest Taxable, paid gross. *Tax free. (†) Other banks may offer. (‡) Extra interest accounts usually pay 1-2 per cent above ordinary accounts. (¶) Increased at end of year in line with rate of inflation. (¶) December 1986 figure 383.0. (¶) Rates for higher rate taxpayers may differ according to type of bond and these rates should be taken as a general guide only. Research: Deborah Dunn (01-622 9082)

3 UNIT TRUSTS

With over nine hundred unit trusts available and more being launched each month, how do you know which to choose? In reality there are only three basic types of unit trust, and M&G has an outstandingly successful example of each: Recovery Fund for capital growth, Dividend Fund for an increasing income, and SECOND General for a balance between income and growth.

You should remember that new funds or funds which suffer a change of management are likely to be more of a gamble than those which can point to a long and successful record. M&G's investment team has remained largely unchanged for many years, and our long-term performance record reflects this. Past performance cannot be a guarantee for the future, but it is usually the best measure you have of a fund's likelihood of achieving its objective.

We are offering an extra 1% unit allocation if you invest £1,000 or more and 2% if you invest £10,000 or more per Fund.

The price of units and the income from them may go down as well as up. This means that unit trusts are a long-term investment and not suitable for money you may need at short notice.

Growth RECOVERY FUND

M&G Recovery Fund is probably the most successful unit trust ever launched and the table below shows just how well it has achieved its aim of capital growth. The Fund buys the shares of companies which have fallen on hard times. Losses must be expected when a company fails to recover but the effect of a turnaround can be dramatic.

COMPARATIVE PERFORMANCE TABLE. Value of £10,000 invested at the launch of M&G Recovery Fund on 31st May 1964, with net income reinvested.					
Year ended 31 DECEMBER	M&G RECOVERY	FT 100 INDEX	RETAIL PRICE INDEX	BUILDING SOCIETY	
23 May 69	£10,000	£10,000	£10,000	£10,000	
1970	11,780	11,780	11,020	11,020	
1975	26,400	26,400	21,283	21,283	
1980	102,560	102,560	40,175	40,175	
1985	270,800	270,800	55,233	55,233	
1 Jan 87	401,520	401,520	57,172	57,172	

NOTES: All figures include reinvested income net of basic rate tax. The Building Society figures are based on an entry interest account offering 1% above the average yearly rate (source: Building Societies Association). M&G Recovery figures are all realisation values. *Estimated.

FURTHER INFORMATION On 13th January 1987 offered prices and estimated gross current yields were:

	Income	Accumulation	Yield
Recovery Fund	428 3p xtd	561 1p	3.06%
Dividend Fund	471 2p xtd	1410 5p	4.90%
SECOND General	815 1p xtd	1632 5p	3.34%

Prices and yields appear daily in the Financial Times. The difference between the "offered" price (at which you buy units) and the "bid" price (at which you sell) is normally 5%. An initial charge of 5% is made on the offered price and an annual charge of up to 1% of each Fund's value - currently 4% - plus VAT is deducted from gross income. Income for Accumulation units is reinvested to increase their value and for Income units it is distributed net of basic rate tax on the following dates:

	Recovery	Dividend	SECOND
Distributions	20 Feb, 20 Aug, 20 Nov	15 Jan, 15 July, 15 Aug	15 Feb, 15 July, 15 Aug
Next distribution	20 Aug 1987	15 July 1987	15 Aug 1987

You can buy or sell units on any business day. Contracts for purchase or sale will be due for settlement two to three weeks later. Remuneration is payable to accredited agents, rates are available on request. The Trustee for Dividend and Recovery is Barclays Bank Trust Co. Limited and for SECOND is Lloyds Bank Plc. The Funds are all wider-range investments and are authorised by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry.

M&G Securities Limited, Three Quays, Tower Hill, London EC3R 6BQ. Tel: 01-626 4588. Member of the Unit Trust Association.

SPECIAL OFFER CLOSES 5th APRIL

All applications received by 5th April 1987 will be given an extra 1% allocation of units. This will increase to 2% for applications of £10,000 or more per Fund.

To: M&G SECURITIES LIMITED, THREE QUAYS, TOWER HILL, LONDON EC3R 6BQ. Please invest the sum(s) indicated below in the Fund(s) of your choice (minimum investment in each Fund: £1,000) in ACCUMULATION/INCOME units (delete as applicable) or Accumulation units will be issued for Recovery and SECOND and Income units will be issued for Dividend at the price ruling on receipt of this application. DO NOT SEND ANY MONEY.

A contract note will be sent to you stating exactly how much you own and the settlement date. Your certificate will follow shortly.

RECOVERY (MAY 1964)	£	00
DIVIDEND (MAY 1964)	£	00
SECOND (MAY 1964)	£	00

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

POST CODE _____

GCAC

Where our Unit Trust put the competition.

Legal & General

In 1986 Legal & General's Far Eastern Trust outshone all other Unit Trusts, more than doubling in value. To find out more about our range of Unit Trusts, call 0800 400 484 and ask for Department 15B, or ask your financial adviser.

£25 A MONTH CAN ACCUMULATE A LOT OF MONEY

If you had chosen fifteen years ago to save £25 a month in a building society, and had left the interest to accumulate, by 1st October 1986 your total outlay of £4,500 would have built up to £9,000. On the other hand, if you had chosen to save the same amount each month in one of our larger unit trusts, M&G SECOND General Trust Fund, you would have built up an investment worth £23,209, an extra £14,709.

You can start an M&G Unit Trust Savings Plan with as little as £25. You need not subscribe regularly but we strongly recommend that you do so, by completing the Bankers Order form. By saving a regular amount you make fluctuations in the stockmarket work to your advantage because more units are bought when their price is low than when it is high.

Unit Trusts are an excellent method of investing in the various stockmarkets of the world, and are ideal for regular investment over the longer term. They are not suitable for money you may need at short notice.

The price of units and the income from them may go down as well as up.

Your Savings Plan subscriptions go into Accumulation units of the Fund you choose and income is reinvested automatically after basic rate tax. Further details of the Funds and WHAT YOU COULD HAVE ACCUMULATED FOR £25 A MONTH BY 1st OCT. 1986

Amount paid in	15 years 1st Oct 1986	10 years 1st Oct 1986	5 years 1st Oct 1986
M&G Recovery	3,008	10,822	33,587
M&G Dividend	3,061	10,331	25,185
M&G SECOND	2,750	9,984	23,209
FT Industrial Ordinary Index	2,634	7,998	16,552
Building Society Savings Account	1,847	4,750	9,000

Source: Planned Savings. All performance figures include income reinvested net of basic rate tax. The figures for the M&G Funds are "bid" prices. You should remember that past performance is no guarantee for the future.

NO EXTRA CHARGES

TO: M&G SECURITIES LTD, THREE QUAYS, TOWER HILL, LONDON EC3R 6BQ

If no Fund is circled your plan will be linked to M&G SECOND.

AMERICAN & GEN.	INTERNATIONAL INCOME
AUSTRALASIAN	JAPAN & GEN.
COMPOUND GROWTH	MIDLAND
DIVIDEND	RECOVERY
INTERNATIONAL GROWTH	SECOND
	GOLD

The units will be registered in the name of M&G Securities Limited and held for your account under the rules of the plan. If the Savings Plan account is being opened for the benefit of a child, please fill in the full name of the child.

I understand that further subscriptions can be made at any time (minimum £25) and that I can receive my holding on any business day without penalty at the bid price ruling.

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

Address _____

Post Code _____

Bankers Order DO NOT DETACH FROM ENROLMENT FORM

To _____ Bank _____

Your Bank _____

Branch Code _____

Please pay to National Westminster Bank PLC, 101 Woodhouse Street, Chesterfield S40 2LN. Account No. 8573270 for the credit of M&G Securities Limited (Savings Plan Account), paying the sum of £ _____ on the _____ day of _____ 19____ and continue to pay that amount on the _____ day of each month/quarter/yearly order at varying from me, and close my account with you from time to time with such payments.

FROM (SURNAMES) AND INITIALS _____ SIGNATURE _____

THE M&G GROUP

Framlington Personal Pensions are underwritten by Framlington Life Insurance Limited, a member of Framlington Group plc. The policies have been approved by the Inland Revenue under Sections 226 and 226A of the Income and Corporation Taxes 1970 (as amended). Framlington Group plc is primarily an investment company specialising in unit trusts, with funds under management of over £450 million and over 90,000 investors.

FRAMLINGTON PERSONAL PENSIONS

A better way of investing for your retirement

IF YOU HAVE A NON-PENSIONABLE JOB you can invest in the Framlington Pensions Managed Fund of Framlington unit trusts and have your investment fully allowed against tax. You can invest either through a single premium (minimum £500) or through monthly premiums (minimum £20 per month). Either way, the whole of your investment goes to buy units. There are no additional charges.

YOUR INVESTMENT

The Pensions Managed Fund is invested in a balanced selection of Framlington unit trusts, chosen and managed with the aim of achieving the maximum return over the years. The Framlington trusts in which the Pensions Managed Fund is invested have outstanding records, particularly over the long term. The average annual compound growth rates in the prices of units (on an offer-to-bid basis) from launch to 31st December 1986 were as follows:

Fund	Launched	Growth
Capital	Jan 69	+15.6% p.a.
Income	Dec 71	+14.6% p.a.
International Growth	Oct 76	+25.5% p.a.
American & General	Apr 78	+18.4% p.a.
American Turnaround	Oct 79	+22.1% p.a.
Extra Income	Feb 80	+20.5% p.a.
Convertible & Gilt	Feb 81	+11.3% p.a.
Recovery	Apr 82	+27.1% p.a.
Japan & General	Feb 84	+27.1% p.a.
European	Feb 86	+51.2% p.a.
Financial	Nov 86	n/a

The proportions in the different trusts are varied continuously. On 31st December 1986 the portfolio was invested in Britain, 29% in North America, 18% in continental Europe and 15% in Japan.

The value of the Pensions Managed Fund was £5.7 million on 31st December 1986 and the offer price of units was 70.8p. The average annual compound growth rate from launch (in January 1985) was 16.5%.

You can also invest through Framlington Personal Pensions in the individual Framlington unit trusts. Details are available on request from Framlington Life.

HOW YOUR POLICY WORKS

The main features of Framlington Personal Pensions are as follows:

1. If you take out a single premium Personal Pension, you do not commit yourself to more than one payment.
2. If you take out a monthly premium plan, you can stop it at any time without penalty (after you have invested at least £1,000 in total) and you can also increase or decrease your contribution at any time.
3. You can take up your benefits at any time between age 60 and age 75.
4. You can take all your benefits as a pension or use part of your accumulated fund to provide a tax-free cash sum on your retirement, as you wish.
5. The value of your pension (including any cash sum) will always be the full value of the units allocated to your Personal Pension.
6. Contributions to Framlington Personal Pensions are normally fully allowable against tax. The whole of your investment builds up free of all income and capital gains taxes.

Simplicity, flexibility, tax efficiency and investment ability are all hallmarks of the Framlington scheme. Moreover there are no charges apart from the charges within the funds.

FOLLOWING THE PROGRESS OF YOUR INVESTMENT

With single premium Framlington Personal Pensions, your contributions will be invested in accumulation units of Framlington Pensions Managed Fund at the offer price ruling on the day your Application Form and cheque are received. For monthly premium Personal Pensions, your first contribution will be invested on the 5th of the month after your Application Form and cheque are received; subsequent contributions will be invested on the 5th of each month.

The prices of the Pensions Managed Fund are calculated each working day and are published in leading daily newspapers. Two prices are shown: the offer price (at which units are allocated to your Personal Pension) and the bid price (which is used to determine the value of the units accumulated on your behalf).

You will be sent a statement each year showing the number and value of units allocated to your Personal Pension. Managers' reports on the Framlington Pensions Managed Fund are published each year.

SWITCHING BETWEEN FUNDS

When you are approaching retirement, you might wish to switch your Personal Pension to the Framlington Pensions Cash Fund, which is invested in bank deposits and other secure investments. This would ensure that you do not suffer from market fluctuations just before you retire. If you do switch, your existing units will be valued (at bid price) and this value will be applied to secure units in the Pensions Cash Fund at the bid price ruling on the day your instructions are received.

You can also switch to unit trusts. The terms for these switches can be obtained from Framlington Life. It should also be noted that Framlington reserves the right to impose a charge for switching to the Cash Fund.

INCREASING OR REDUCING YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS

With single premium Framlington Personal Pensions, you do not commit yourself to more than one payment. Your policy continues automatically until you decide to start drawing the benefits - any time between your 60th and 75th birthdays. If you wish to pay further contributions, you can simply take out additional single premium Personal Pensions.

With monthly premium Framlington Personal Pensions, you can increase your regular monthly contribution, or decrease it (but not below the minimum of £20). You can also pay in additional single premiums (minimum currently £100) when you start your plan or subsequently. Additional premiums will be invested on the first allocation day (the 5th of the month) after your cheque is received.

You can miss a regular monthly premium - but if more than three are missed consecutively, Framlington will have the right to make your policy "paid-up" and to refuse further premiums. You can decide at any time not to pay further premiums and make your policy "paid-up"; the units allocated will continue to grow in value until you decide to draw the benefits.

If you make your policy paid-up, or more than three monthly premiums are missed, before premiums totalling £1,000 have been paid, Framlington will have the right to impose a charge against the units allocated. This charge will not exceed 5% of the difference between £1,000 and the total of premiums paid.

Knocks spots off the opposition.... good returns....tops for cost efficiency.

When single premium Framlington Personal Pensions were introduced early in 1985, there was widespread favourable comment.

The Times said: "Framlington, the top performing unit trust group, has entered the personal pension field with a plan that looks set to knock spots off the opposition."

The Financial Times said: "The plan...offers prospects of good returns, because of its investment expertise and its low charging structure."

The Sunday Telegraph said: "Out have gone all those confusing sub-clauses and pointless extras which clutter up personal pensions. Out, too, have gone those nasty charges you need a magnifying glass to notice."

In 1986 the monthly premium plan was also well received by the press.

The Observer said: "Framlington's personal pension scheme has always been the tops for cost-efficiency."

The Independent noted: "There are no charges apart from the normal initial and annual management charges which are levied on all unit trusts."

The Sunday Telegraph added: "... One of the best value pension plans by far. Unlike most pension plans, 100 per cent of all Framlington monthly contributions are invested to provide a pension rather than being siphoned off in charges."

ELIGIBILITY

You can invest in a Framlington Personal Pension if you have any earnings from non-pensionable employment. You can therefore take out a Personal Pension if:-

1. You are self-employed.
2. Your employer does not have a pension scheme.
3. Your employer has a pension scheme but you are not a member of it.
4. You are a partner in a partnership.
5. You are the sole proprietor of a business.
6. You have consultancy or other earnings (apart from your main income from employment) which are non-pensionable.

HOW MUCH ARE YOU ALLOWED TO INVEST?

The minimum investment is £500 for single premium Framlington Personal Pensions and £20 for monthly premium plans. The maximum you can invest is laid down by legislation, based on "net relevant earnings". These are your gross earnings (other than any earnings from employment which carries pension rights), less any expenses connected with running your own business.

If you were born in 1934 or later you can contribute 17½% of your net relevant earnings to a personal pension plan. If you were born in 1933 or earlier, you can make larger contributions as shown below:-

Year of Birth	Percentage of Net Relevant Earnings
1916-1933	20%
1914 or 1915	21%
1912 or 1913	24%

There are provisions for carrying back contributions to the preceding tax year and for carrying forward unused relief from up to six previous years to the current year.

TAX ADVANTAGES

Investing in a personal pension plan has significant tax advantages over every other method of saving and investing.

Tax relief on contributions
Provided your contributions fall within the rules you can obtain full income tax relief on them at the highest rate you currently pay. Thus if you are a basic rate taxpayer, a contribution of £1,000 will in effect cost you only £710. If your top rate of tax is 60%, a contribution of £1,000 should cost you only £400.

Tax-free investment growth
Your contributions are invested in units of Framlington unit trusts.

through the Framlington Pensions Managed Fund. Unit trusts and pension funds are both exempt from capital gains tax. Pension funds are also exempt from income tax; we can therefore claim back and reinvest on your behalf the income tax charged on the income distributed by the unit trusts.

Tax-free cash sum on retirement

Under current legislation you can take a cash sum, completely free of tax, as part of your pension.

THE BENEFITS ON RETIREMENT

No Fixed Retirement Date
You can take the benefits from your Framlington Personal Pension at any time between the ages of 60 and 75. You do not have to decide on your retirement date now.

If you are in an occupation where the normal retirement age is below 60, you can usually take your pension at this lower age, subject to Inland Revenue approval. You can also take the benefits before age 60 if you have to retire early because of ill-health.

Whenever you take the benefits, the full value of your accumulated

fund will be paid out. No deductions are made on early retirement.

Pension and Cash Sum at Retirement

At retirement you can choose between using the whole of your accumulated fund to provide a pension and taking part of the benefits as a tax free cash sum, with the balance providing a pension. If you decide to take a cash sum, the amount must not be more than three times the pension provided by the remainder.

You may choose a pension of a fixed amount or one which starts at a lower level but increases by a fixed percentage each year. You can also choose between a pension for your lifetime alone, one guaranteed for 5 years and one which would continue to be paid to your widow (or widower).

The pension can be paid monthly, quarterly, half-yearly or annually as you prefer. You also have a choice of who will actually provide the benefits:

1. Through the "Open Market Option", at retirement you can use the fund you have built up to purchase a pension at the best rates obtainable from any company.
2. From Framlington Life. The rates will depend upon conditions at the time and may not be as good as you could obtain through the "Open Market Option".

BENEFITS ON DEATH BEFORE RETIREMENT

The amount payable on death will be the value at bid price of the units allocated to your policy. If you are under 55 it is possible to take out a single premium Personal Pension which provides guaranteed life assurance cover, but with a 3% deduction from the units allocated. Details are available from Framlington Life.

MANAGEMENT CHARGES

100% of your contributions are invested on your behalf. There are no charges apart from the normal annual and initial charges for the unit trusts (or the Pensions Cash Fund) in which the Pensions Managed Fund is invested.

There are at present no direct annual charges for the Framlington Pensions Managed Fund. The normal annual charges are deducted for the unit trusts (¾% + VAT for UK-invested trusts and 1% + VAT for overseas-invested trusts) and the Pensions Cash Fund (½%). The initial charge for the Pensions Managed Fund, which is included in the offer price of the units, is 5%; the prices of the Fund take account of the initial charges (also 5%) of the unit trusts - so there is no "double-charging".

Commission of 3% is paid to agents for single premium Framlington Personal Pensions. No commission is payable for monthly premium plans.

LOAN FACILITIES

Loan facilities can be provided by Coutts Finance Co. Details are available on request.

NOTES

1 This advertisement is based on Framlington Life's understanding of legislation and Inland Revenue practice as at 31st December 1986.

2 Framlington Life can take no responsibility for determining whether contributions to Framlington Personal Pensions fall within the eligibility limits for any individual concerned.

3. Allocations to units for Framlington Personal Pensions are notional. References to "invested" and "invested" should not be construed as conferring any right to the underlying units.

4. This advertisement is intended to provide information about Framlington Personal Pensions. Rights as between investors and Framlington Life will be governed solely by the terms of the policies. Specimen policy documents can be obtained from Framlington Life.

Unit trusts invest in securities with prices that fluctuate and you should be aware that the price of units in the Framlington Pensions Managed Fund may go down as well as up.

HOW TO APPLY

Simply complete the Application Form and send it with your cheque for the single premium or your first contribution to a monthly premium plan to:

Framlington Life Insurance Limited, 3 London Wall Buildings, London EC2M 5NQ. Telephone No. 01-628 5181.

For monthly premium plans, the cheque you send with your application will be banked on the first allocation day (the 5th of the month) after we receive it. Your second and subsequent contributions will be payable by direct debit: when we receive your application, we will send you a direct debit mandate for you to complete and return.

The minimum investment is £500 for single premium Personal Pensions and £20 per month for monthly premium plans.

1% extra units are allocated for single premiums of £10,000 or more or for monthly premiums of £100 or more.

APPLICATION FORM

Please send the completed form to Framlington Life Insurance Limited, 3 London Wall Buildings, London EC2M 5NQ

PROPOSER (Please use block capitals)

Surname (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Title) _____

Full Forenames _____

Address _____

ELIGIBILITY

Please tick appropriate box

1 Are you engaged on your own account or as a partner personally acting in some trade, profession or occupation? Yes ☐ No ☐

2 (a) Are you an employed person (or the holder of an office or employment)? Yes ☐ No ☐

Note: A controlling directorship of a company whose income consists wholly or mainly of investment income is not an office or employment for this purpose (see Section 226(9) Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1970)

2 (b) If YES, is one or more of your occupations non-pensionable? Yes ☐ No ☐

Note: An occupation is pensionable if in connection therewith you are a member of a sponsored superannuation scheme which is any scheme or arrangement from which you expect to receive a retirement benefit, whether in lump sum or pension form, which will not have been wholly provided out of your own resources

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I enclose my cheque (payable to "Framlington Life Insurance Limited") for £_____ (minimum £500) for a single premium Framlington Personal Pension Plan (1986).

I wish the premium to be applied for investment in the Framlington Pensions Managed Fund.

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I wish to start a monthly premium Framlington Personal Pension Plan (1986) for £_____ (minimum £20) per month

I enclose my cheque for £_____ for my first contribution (this can be for a larger amount than your subsequent monthly premium) made payable to "Framlington Life Insurance Limited"

I wish the premium to be applied for investment in the Framlington Pensions Managed Fund.

DECLARATION

I declare that the statements contained in this Application are true and complete and that I have not relevant earnings used in the UK. I agree that this Application shall be the basis of the proposed contract between me and Framlington Life Insurance Limited to provide benefits payable under Section 226 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1970. I further understand that no benefit under this contract shall be capable of being surrendered nor any pension assigned or commuted except as permitted by Section 226 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1970.

Signed _____

Date _____

Registered Office as above. Registered in England No 1689376

FRAMLINGTON

T 171

FAMILY MONEY/9

The Revenue's detectives

TAXES

Once the taxman has decided that you are a suitable target for investigation, how does he go about the task of establishing that you are (or possibly are not) fiddling your taxes?

DANBY BLOCH and RAYMOND GODFREY explain

Mr Coy was a self-employed taxi driver who drove in the evenings and supported a wife and two children on the proceeds.

Apart from a £20-a-week contribution to household expenses, his sole income from 1981 to 1985 ranged between £2,523 and £3,363 a year.

The inspector of taxes clearly found it difficult to believe that this family of four could get by on just £285 a week, in spite of what Mr Coy's records showed.

Typically Mr Coy kept only the sketchiest of records of his takings. There were no records of individual journeys, just a figure in a notebook showing the total receipts every eve-

ning such as £24 or £25 with no other embellishments.

There was no other direct evidence that the taxman could uncover, so did he have to take the taxpayer's word?

In fact, the inspector of taxes was able to draw on indirect evidence and make assumptions.

In a fairly standard approach to this kind of problem, the taxpayer was asked to produce annual statements of income and total business and personal expenditure.

It also appears that he was asked to produce a statement of his capital assets at the beginning and end of the period and it turned out that Mr Coy owned both his house and his car.

The taxman concentrated on two particular years, 1984 and 1985, and looked into the expenditure figures in more detail. He did not accept them and used as his authority the Family Expenditure Survey issued by the Department of Employment.

From these general figures, he was able to infer the probable expenditure patterns of this particular family. From this he deduced the probable income figures and raised tax assessments accordingly.

We knew this much about the case because the taxpayer took the case first to the General Commissioners - the first step in the tax appeal ladder - and then, where it was reported, to the High Court (Coy v Kime, 1986).

The taxpayer in this case appeared in person on his own behalf and asserted that all his records, and accounts were correct and that the assessments should, therefore, be reduced.

The Commissioners decided he had not kept accurate records but accepted that rather lower assessments should be made. In the High Court the judge dismissed the taxpayer's appeal against the Commissioners' findings.

This is just one case that is typical of the approach the Revenue now takes.

When an inspector takes up an inquiry into someone's tax

at the beginning and end of every year. The difference between these tax figures will be the increase or decrease in the net wealth during the period.

The inspector will compare these results with the taxpayer's income and expenditure figures to try to calculate the approximate income for two or three years.

Then, working on those figures, he will normally draw up assessments for earlier and later periods, adjusted only for changes in the cost of living.

As a result the inspector will be able to restate the accounts on a basis with which he is satisfied.

Other factors likely to be taken into account will include the normal profit levels achieved in comparable businesses, price rises, seasonal trends, and of course, any documentary evidence such as invoices and bank statements.

The taxman will expect to see that income is enough to cover reasonable personal expenditure. Winnings from gambling without strong written evidence are never accepted as a legitimate source

Tax-dodgers destroyed the evidence by burning £50,000 and scattering the ashes

of otherwise unexplained income.

All this normally requires the co-operation of the taxpayer, and in most cases, the Revenue is able to offer inducements in the form of lower penalties in return for a full confession and assistance.

The penalty for fraud, apart from possible prison, can be up to twice the tax evaded, and for negligence 100 per cent of the tax evaded. Then there is interest, and of course, the tax itself to find. Full disclosure can bring these penalties down substantially.

However, if a taxpayer has agreed to co-operate fully, and it is subsequently discovered that certain information has been withheld, such as an undisclosed bank account or a hidden source of earnings, then the penalties are normally exacted in full.

In one such investigation involving several members of the same family, the taxpayers had agreed to make a full disclosure in return for lower penalties.

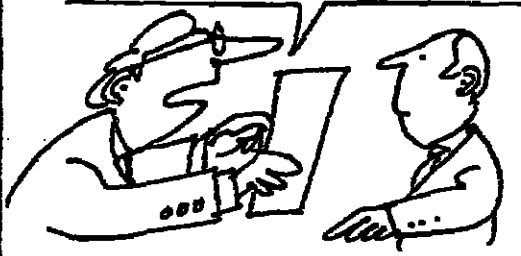
However, a cash sum of around £50,000 had not been disclosed, but as the investigators dug deeper into the family's affairs, panic set in and they burned the incriminating evidence and scattered the ashes from the banknotes over the rose garden.

After further discussions with one of the taxpayers, this incident came to light and the garden was examined for traces of the incriminated £50,000, which, it transpired after scientific analysis, had not as yet broken down into compost.

So the taxpayers had to find the penalties, the interest and the tax, all in full, and without even the help of the original cash sum.

The Tax Inspector & The Taxpayer

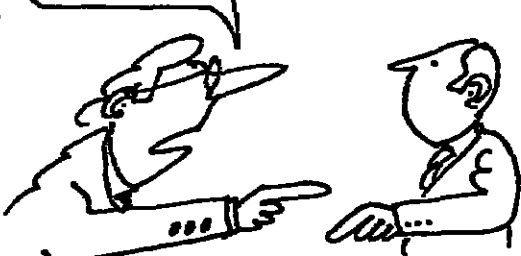
WE HAVE REASON TO BELIEVE YOUR TAX CLAIM IS INCORRECT



IF SO, YOU WILL INCUR THE FULL PENALTY IE ALL THE TAX OWED PLUS INTEREST. FAILURE TO PAY



COULD MEAN THAT YOU GO TO PRISON... HAVE YOU ANYTHING TO SAY?



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London Life

FAMILY MONEY/10

The junk that jingles the tills

An easy way to get rid of unwanted Christmas presents and make money from old junk is to spend a day in the fresh air at a car boot sale. A few tips are offered by SHEILA COYLE

Car boot sales are advertised in local papers and on poster hoardings and are usually held in fields, car parks or school playgrounds on Saturdays and Sundays. Anyone can go to a car boot sale and enjoy a lucrative weekend with friends or family. Even the dog is welcome.

Originally, the idea came from the United States where they were called tag sales. But the British, with typical reserve, took some time to catch on to this novel way of getting rid of their unwanted paraphernalia. Now it is becoming a popular pastime, providing cash in hand — no credit card sales!

The preparation is most important

The prevailing atmosphere is somewhere between a street market and a vicarage garden fête.

All you need is a car, a friend, a load of goods and a little knowhow. Preparation is most important.

Pack all your goods in strong cardboard boxes available from supermarkets or wine stores. Tie string around the sides and bottoms of heavy boxes for easier handling and to avoid any accidents. Use a marker pen and label the packages so that you know exactly what they contain: china, clothes, glass, household and kitchenware. Stick price tags on articles ready to be marked on site if you are not sure what to charge.

Sorting out your junk at home is the most time-consuming job — the rest is child's play. Take extra cards and sticky tape with you and a pair of scissors. Start saving pieces of card like those found

in new packets of nappies, instead of throwing them away. Already, you are beginning to get the right idea.

Arrive early and get a good place. The entrance fee is usually £5 per car. Share expenses and then keep your own sales. Take it in turn to browse around other cars to compare prices and find your own bargains. Something will catch your eye — that is what it is all about.

It can be fun and there is a sense of camaraderie among the genuine amateurs. Beware

and display their goods with clearly marked price cards and advertising slogans. Beginners can make do with empty upturned cardboard boxes and a smile, although time spent on a good display is seldom wasted.

One car-booter had dressed up a huge teddy bear as a tramp mascot, and sat him in the empty boot in a nonchalant pose. He attracted plenty of attention throughout the day and helped to sell lots of goods.

Wear warm clothes and

and have plenty of small change — nobody ever has enough. Regular car-booters wear a belt with a pouch — kangaroo style — but big pockets will suffice for your first visit.

Check the money you start with so that you can calculate your exact profit at the end of the day. Most goods range from 10p to £10. Sales of 50p soon add up. No need to be greedy — they are unwanted things. Every one of you can expect to make a profit of around £20.

shampoos are in great demand. So are woollen garments — jumpers, scarves, gloves and socks.

Create a "Cook's Corner" and get rid of all those kitchen gadgets and utensils you never use. And all those ties, hats, books, pictures and jewellery are just what people want, even though you would not give them house room.

Washed second-hand clothes in good condition go like wild fire. Cotton sheets make pillow slips, blouses and handkerchiefs. Old blankets make warm beds for pets. Curtains and bedspreads, table legs and castors will all sell quickly if the price is right.

If you are selling old rubbish and want to clear the lot, now is your chance to use all the charm, wit and guile of a barrow boy. "Everything at 5p!" should shift it. One cheerful Charlie put a card up: "Shoppers welcome — help yourself please!" He said his wife would kill him if he took anything back home.

People know it is only fun

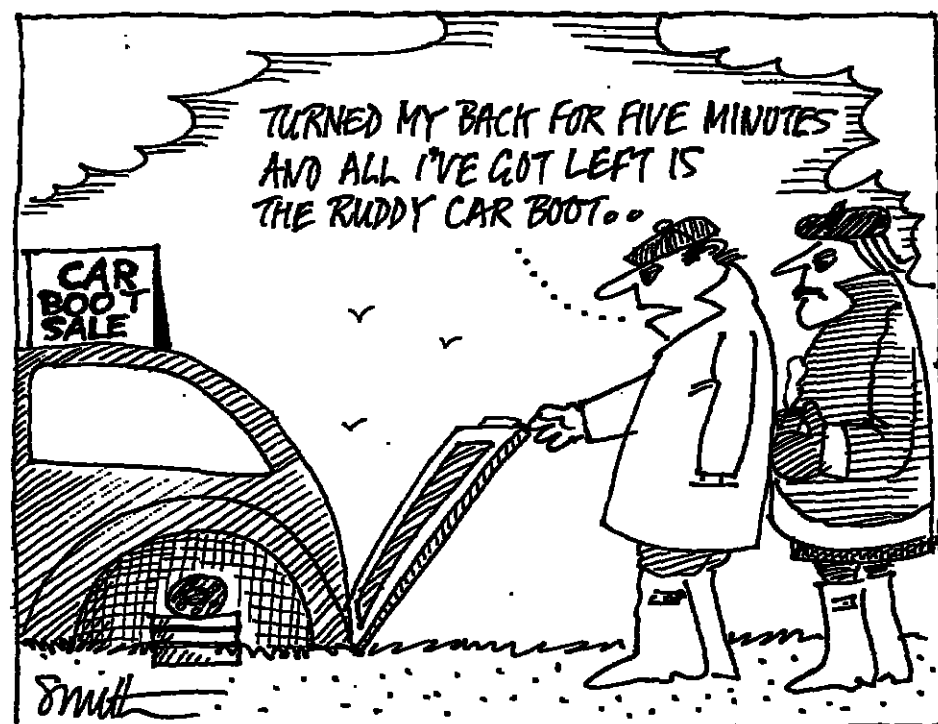
Few people can resist a bargain

and few can resist a bargain. A car boot sale can be a beachcomber's paradise or a hoarder's delight as well as a profitable dump.

Almost anything has a market. Garden goods are popular and gardeners are so inquisitive. A white circular plastic tray from an obsolete dishwasher was snapped up for an attractive plant arrangement, and an old chip pan basket became a hanging plant holder. That was 50p well spent!

Car accessories sell but do make sure your own tools are not sold by mistake. Hide them out of sight. But you must not leave your car unattended or you may find your spare tyre is missing.

By the time you get home you will be exhausted but pleased with your efforts. Who cares if you have acquired other people's rubbish? You can always sell it at the next car boot sale because, you see, there is a danger you may become addicted.



of dealers who lurk waiting to pounce on greenhorns and buy up the best of their bargains. Keep your prices firm until the public arrive on foot.

It can be a long day standing from 10am until 5pm, so take a couple of folding chairs with you. A vacuum flask, some sandwiches and chocolate are also a good idea as refreshments are not always available on site and you can get very peckish in the open air.

Regular car-booters are well organized. They have a folding table draped with a cloth

wellies if it is wet. Keep your feet warm and dry and you will stay happy all day. A large sheet of polythene or plastic dustbin bags and tablecloths

Nobody ever has enough change

will be useful to cover the goods if it rains. This saves a mad scramble putting things back into the boot. And remember an umbrella for yourselves.

You will need deep pockets or a bag to keep your money in

One couple had made enough money to pay for their holiday abroad after six car boot sales. Another middle-aged pair, moving from a large family house to a tiny flat after their children had got married, found it a pleasant way to reduce unwanted stock, gain a few pounds and make some new friends. And one old man got £2 for a coil of wire he had been stubbing his toe on in the garage for years!

Unwanted Christmas presents sell well. Toilet goods such as after-shave, talcum powder, scented soaps and

Immigrant wife cannot rely on husband's right of abode

Regina v Secretary of State for the Home Department, Ex parte Ali

Same v Same, Ex parte Uddin Before Mr Justice Taylor [Judgment January 16]

The right of a person with the right of abode in the United Kingdom to live in and to come into and go from the UK without let or hindrance, conferred by section 1(1) of the Immigration Act 1971, did not extend to enable a husband who had such right of abode to be accompanied by his wife, who did not, in the absence of her compliance with the requirement by immigration rules that she obtain an entry clearance certificate prior to entry into the UK.

Mr Justice Taylor held in the Queen's Bench Division in dismissing applications by Soifur Rahman Ali, Rafiq Uddin and Firoz Uddin for judicial review of the refusal by the Secretary of State for the Home Department on June 18, 1986, December 6, 1985 and May 14, 1986 respectively to reverse the decisions of immigration officers to grant leave to enter the UK to the wife of each of the applicants.

Mr Alper Riza for the applicants; Mr David Pannick for the Home Secretary.

MR JUSTICE TAYLOR said that the applications were heard together as they raised the same point. The applicants Uddin and Rahman Ali were born in Bangladesh. He came to the UK in 1976 to join his father and became registered as a British citizen in 1984.

In 1985 he visited Bangladesh where he married his wife, who was a citizen of that country. They came to the UK on October 5, 1985, having made no application for an entry clearance certificate for the wife in Deca.

It was accepted that in each of the three cases delays of approximately 13 months were involved in the process of being interviewed with a view to obtaining an entry clearance certificate.

The applicant Ali was 27, having been born in the UK of Bangladeshi parents. He married his wife in Bangladesh on March 13, 1986. She too was a citizen of that country. Being unwilling to secure the delay in obtaining a certificate for the wife, they came to the UK on

May 5, 1986 where the wife was refused entry but given temporary admission.

The applicant Uddin was 20 years old, having been born in Bangladesh and acquired British citizenship on June 1, 1985. He married his wife in the UK after she had been granted temporary admission on being refused entry on the ground that she held no entry clearance certificate.

The relevant rules were those contained in the Statement of Changes in the Immigration Rules of February 9, 1985 (HC 169). Paragraph 4 dealt with the requirement for British citizens who were neither British citizens nor Commonwealth citizens to obtain leave to enter.

Paragraph 10 of the Statement of Changes in the Immigration Rules of July 15, 1985 (HC 503) substituted provisions requiring spouses with such status to possess an entry clearance certificate.

Mr Riza accepted that the wives had no right of entry to this country, nor did they have any right of abode themselves, and that their presence in a British citizen gave them no such right.

Section 2(2) of the Immigration Act 1971 before its amendment by section 39(2) of the British Nationality Act 1981 would have given them that right as Commonwealth citizens.

Mr Riza argued that the delay in processing the applications for entry clearance constituted an indirect let or hindrance to the applicants' right under section 1(1) of the 1971 Act, and that the applicants were entitled not only to the right of physical presence in this country, but also to live here with wife, children and relatives.

He relied on *R v Secretary of State for the Home Department, Ex parte Phansopha* (1976) 1 QB 608 which said that it was unlawful for a wife's certificate of patriality to be delayed without cause.

That case was decided when section 2(2) of the 1971 Act still operated in its unamended form to give a wife who was a Commonwealth citizen the right to come to the UK. The Court of Appeal emphasized the difference between the case of a wife who had a right to come here and that of one who required leave.

The court in *R v Secretary of State for the Home Department, Ex parte Ali* (1975) 1 WLR

1717 made it clear that *Ex parte Phansopha* had no application where the wife had no right of abode.

The argument under section 1(1) of the 1971 Act was misconceived. That section could not give a husband the right to be joined by his wife forthwith. The Act distinguished between those with the right of abode and those who required leave to enter. Otherwise section 2(2) in its original form would have been otiose.

Supported for that view was to be the Home Secretary had been guilty of a procedural impropriety, by, for example, failing to consult or failing to grant an applicant a hearing.

Mr Riza contended that the decision of the Home Secretary was irrational because of the actual background to the delay, which was caused by the large number of applicants and the small number of entry clearance officers.

There was no suggestion of bad faith or that the delay had been deliberately created. Mr Riza suggested that more officers could be appointed.

Mr Pannick argued that the Home Secretary was answerable to Parliament for increases in expenditure and that the court should be slow to interfere with the exercise of his discretion in such circumstances. He relied on *Secretary of State for the Environment, Ex parte Nottinghamshire County Council* (1985) 1 AC 240.

His Lordship noted that the Home Secretary had also taken the view that it would be unfair to allow priority to those who had acted in defiance of the requirement of entry clearance being obtained before arrival in the UK over those who had waited their turn.

In relation to both those issues the Home Secretary's approach had been reasonable. It was not possible to say his decision in each of the cases had been irrational.

The applications therefore failed and would be dismissed. Solicitors: Suria & Co, Stoney, Norton & Coler, Tottenham; Treasury Solicitor.

Undertaking in damages required against caution on register

Tucker v Hutchinson and Another

Before Lord Justice Neill and Lord Justice Balcombe [Judgment January 15]

Where a purchaser alleged the subsistence of a contract for the sale of registered land, and sought to protect his position pending trial by maintaining a caution on the register, the court should normally also protect the owner's position by requiring the purchaser to give an undertaking in damages.

The Court of Appeal allowed an appeal by the plaintiff, Christopher Robey Tucker, from the decision of Mr Justice Whitford on July 30, 1986, not to demand from the defendants, Patrick Hutchinson and John Kempton, an undertaking in damages as a condition for allowing them to maintain a caution on the register of the plaintiff's land at 3 Trafalgar Avenue, Peckham, London.

Mr Colin Graham for the plaintiff, Mr Philip Walter for the defendants.

LORD JUSTICE BALCOMBE said that on March 18, 1986, the plaintiff, a vendor, entered into a contract for the sale of the land to the defendants.

Completion of the contract was conditional upon the defendants obtaining from the local planning authority either an established use certificate or planning permission for use of the property as three self-contained flats and a basement.

On April 4, 1986, the defendants, as contracting purchasers, registered a caution at the Land Registry to protect their interests.

On July 21, 1986, the plaintiff began proceedings for declarations that the contract no longer subsisted and that it had been repudiated by the defendants, because of their delay in applying to the planning authority.

On the same day, the plaintiffs applied by motion for the caution on the register to be vacated.

The judge held that there was a triable issue as to the subsistence of the contract and that there was no justification for discharging the caution. At the conclusion of that judgment, the court for the plaintiff applied for a cross-undertaking in damages but the judge refused.

The plaintiff now appealed against both the decisions not to vacate and not to require a cross-undertaking in damages. In *Claydon v Bradley* (1974) 1 WLR 243 the court dealt with a similar problem by vacating the caution, but permitting the cautioner to apply at once for an interlocutory injunction to restrain the owner from dealing with the land pending trial, subject to a cross-undertaking in damages.

In *Tipton Ltd v Wearwell Ltd* (1975) Ch 146, 161 Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, advocated the more direct course of permitting the cautioner to retain the caution subject to a cross-undertaking in damages to protect the owner's position.

The judge gave no reasons for refusing the cross-undertaking in the present case. Since the application was made after he had given an ex tempore judgment, and it was the end of term, that was understandable. However, if a cross-undertaking in damages was the normal course where such a caution was not to be vacated, he should have given reasons for not following that course.

In the absence of such reasons, the Court of Appeal was therefore entitled to use its own discretion and since his Lordship could see no reason why the normal course should not be followed, the appeal should be allowed to the extent of requiring the defendants to give a cross-undertaking in damages.

LORD JUSTICE NEILL, agreeing, said that it was clear from the decision of the Court of Appeal in the *Tipton* case, that where there was a real issue to be tried which might be determined against the cautioner, and the owner might suffer damage as a result of the caution, the court would in the ordinary way require a cross-undertaking in damages as a term of the dismissal of an application to vacate that caution.

Solicitors: Edwin Cox & Calder Woods for Shoomaths & Harrison, Reading; Berensons, Kensington.

Corrections

In *Claydon v Bradley* (The Times December 15, 1986) Mr and Mrs Claydon's solicitors were Brown and Partners, Bristol. Mrs Bradley's solicitors were Goughs, Melksham at first instance but she appeared in person on appeal.

In *Post Office v Aquarius Properties Ltd* (The Times, December 31, 1986) the solicitors for the appellants were Greenwood, who took over the matter from Masons.

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5 Times Portfolio list and details of the daily or weekly dividend will also be available for inspection at the offices of The Times.

6 If the overall price movement of more than one combination of shares equals the dividend, the prize will be equally divided among the claimants holding those combinations of shares.

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Durie and Hobbs beat the elements and go through to the last 16

From Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent, Melbourne

Jo Durie and Anne Hobbs of Britain advanced to the last 16 of the women's singles in the Ford-sponsored Australian championships at Kooyong yesterday. They also won their first round doubles. Two British pairs, Durie and Hobbs, and Bates and Castle, were beaten by the holders of the men's doubles title, Paul Annacome and Chris van Rensburg.

Miss Hobbs beat the 15th seed, Dianne Balestrat of Australia, 6-4, 6-2, on the centre court in extraordinary circumstances — not that these depreciated the quality of a smart and disciplined performance by Miss Hobbs. Mrs Balestrat retired from last week's tournament in Sydney because some bug had affected her nervous system and intestines and had also given her a headache and a high temperature. She lost 5lbs in weight and, but for the status of the Australian championships, would not have played this week.

A much more evident feature of the match was the hot, strong, clear gusty wind. The obvious routine of finding out where the ball was heading, going there, and hitting it, was complicated by the fact that the ball often went somewhere else.

When Mrs Balestrat was serving at 2-4, and love-15 in the second set, a violent gust ripped the sunshade from the umpire's chair and scattered the players' chairs and towels and other court-side impediments. The umpire, Jane Tabor of Somerset, grabbed her hair in shock and apprehension and briefly wondered if (while she was still sitting on it) her lofty perch would itself be flung into the court.

"All that was laughable," Miss Hobbs said, "and the best thing that could have happened to me. I was a set and 4-2 up and a bit tense." As for the tennis, Miss Hobbs summed it up neatly: "Basically, a ball in court was a potential winner." Before the match, she said she had considered the difficulties of playing an Australian on a court that had patches of bare, cracked earth. "Then there was the wind. But in the end, a few gusts, I handled it well and gained confidence. I was watching the ball and moving with it. Dianne didn't adapt so well. It was matter of holding my nerve and coming to the net on hers."

Miss Hobbs broke service in the first game and saved a total of four break points in her first three services games. After that it was not so much a question of hitting winners as playing a sensible and tidy game and reeling in the points.

McNamee strikes a blow for grass court sentiment

From Richard Evans, Melbourne

Even if they can't play football at Upton Park this weekend, I hope West Ham United's proponents of grass pitches remember to raise a glass to Paul McNamee — a voice from across the world who has been choosing their sentiments with great passion here at Kooyong.

McNamee, a member of the team who recently took the Davis Cup for Australia, delivered a rather dull day at the Australian Open by throwing down the gauntlet to Brian Tobin, President of Tennis Australia, over the question of what surface will be laid at the new National Tennis Centre which is being built across the railway tracks from the Melbourne Cricket Ground in readiness for next year's championships.

McNamee produced a carefully thought out statement on behalf of the leading Australian player, who was absolutely out of his mind when he said that they had tested the six trial surfaces laid at a nearby club and had found them all "unsuitable" for the Australian Open and were strongly advocating the retention of their nation's traditional surface, namely grass.

"We had been led to believe that the possibility of retaining grass was absolutely out," McNamee said. "But at a meeting we had on Wednesday, Brian Tobin was unable to convince us that grass was a totally unfeasible option."

Checking off the relevant points, including the loss of revenue as a result of laying a surface the public will not be able to use for much of the year, McNamee suggested exploring the idea of laying grass permanently on nine of the 16 outside courts and having turf brought into the main stadium on trays.

McNamee cited the examples of Sweden and Yugoslavia, both of whom had created indoor clay courts for recent Davis Cup ties in this manner and although Tobin was highly sceptical, about it when he fired a few salvos across the players' bows later in the day, there was support for McNamee from an expert source in Perth.

John Maley, head groundsman at the WACA where every cricketer I spoke to during the recent one-day tournament was full of praise for the quality of the pitches he produced, agreed that the idea of carrying a tennis court into a stadium was feasible providing it had at least a week to settle.

"It would be easier to do this if it has been with a cricket pitch, because the joints won't be so critical," Maley said.

Tobin countered by pointing out that the construction of the stadium, already one third completed, is such that, according to experts, the grass would have to be brought in divided into 20 sections.

"Where are these experts? Let's talk to them," responded McNamee, provoking the press into a bit of a tiff with a bone beneath its teeth.

"It promises to be a good argument, flamed at virtually every press conference in the coming days by top players, almost all of whom have the idea of synthetic grass, mainly because they have only played on the outdated models — in football, tennis, and even in the idea of laying grass permanently on nine of the 16 outside courts and having turf brought into the main stadium on trays."

McNamee's speech was a tactical error, allowing a player who has been in the advertising pages of the Australian Open programme, thus giving a false impression of official endorsement. This, coupled with his public statements, about wanting a court that "plays like and looks like grass" has left the salaried chief executive of Australian tennis in an unenviable position.

But, scoring one for those at Luton and Oldham Athletic who have a clear picture of what the future sporting world holds in store, Tobin asked: "Do you really think we could risk the entire reputation of the championships at a new venue by weighing in something as unpredictable as a cricket pitch, hoping it wouldn't break up or wear out?"

Just a few yards from where he was speaking, the three grass courts already one third completed, stood as a powerful support to his argument. Scarred and worn by the Davis Cup, the players are in a bit of a tiff with a bone beneath its teeth.

Paul McNamee is fighting a spirited battle (he even remembered to say how unfair it would be to leave Wimbledon exposed as the only remaining major grass court tournament) but when Tennis Australia, make their decision next month the odds are still heavily against grass court sentiment surrounding synthetic reality.

Hammond takes on president's role

From Chris Moore, St Moritz

Mo Hammond, the British team manager, has been elected president of the jury for next week's European championships in Cervinia. He will be the first British official to hold the rank at a major international meeting.

The 55-year-old flight lieutenant in the RAF has been involved in the sport for 30 years, initially as a competitor, and for the last five years as team manager. He will also be on the jury for the last round of the World Cup on the new Olympic track at Calgary next month. But because the scheduled fourth round of the World Cup will now be incorporated in the European Championships, Hammond will share the presidency with Peter Schare of Switzerland.

"It has been agreed that Schare will act as president for the two-man competition and I will take over for the four-man," said Hammond.

Meanwhile, Nick Phipps and Stan Tout have been drawn 14th and 10th respectively in today's four-man event at the world championships here. "It means that I'll be last but one in the final run on Sunday. But providing it's not snowing then it looks a reasonable draw," said Phipps.

Between them, the Swiss and East Germans have won 19 of the 21 medals in the last seven world championships, with the East Germans capturing four golds to Switzerland's three.

But on their own track, Ralph Pichler winner of last week's two-man race, and the veteran Hans Hiltbrand, will start favourites to complete a Swiss double tomorrow. Olympic champion Wolfgang Hoppe, the only East German challenger, promises the main threat.

GYMNASTICS: A MICROCHIP REVOLUTION, PLUS A PREVIEW OF THE WEEKEND'S TOP TOURNAMENT



Screen test: Newton, above right, with Sue Campbell, director of the National Coaching Foundation (Photograph: Asadour Guzelian). Left, Karen Hargate, who misses the Gold Top Cup because of a neck injury (Photograph: Eileen Langsley)

Computer age comes to Britain's aid

By John Goodbody

Using a computer to analyse techniques could have a dramatic impact on Britain's international sporting performances. The process, which scrutinises the technical precision of leading British gymnasts, can be adapted for other activities like hurdling, golf or diving.

The application for gymnastics is being used by John Atkinson, the director of coaching at the British Amateur Gymnastics Association, who is determined to counter the detailed examination of movement which is commonplace abroad.

He said: "When we learned what other countries were doing, we realised they were putting a lot of effort into these areas and decided to do the same."

The work has been carried out by John Newton, a senior lecturer in biomechanics at Carnegie School of Physical Education and Human Movement Studies, Leeds Polytechnic, with a £6,000 grant from the National Coaching Foundation, who are eager to see this kind of analysis become widespread in Britain.

The application for sport is particularly appropriate to what are known as "closed" skills, when such factors as the actions of opponents do not have influence on competitors' techniques.

Newton began by taking films of the British women's gymnastics team. He concentrated on one move which was causing difficulties: the straddle back to handstand from the high to low bar on the asymmetric bar. He also filmed Natalia Yurchenko, the Soviet Union's world champion, for comparison.

When he returned to Leeds he transferred each frame of the film onto a 6ft-by-4ft electronic digitising tablet and traced 14 critical points of the body (joints like the shoulders, knees and ankles) with a light pen. Each time the cursor touched the screen, it registered with the computer and then interpreted the data into stick men on a screen.

"From this information we could not only compare the exact movements of the leading British competitors with Yurchenko but also discover the speeds of all the movements, the position of the centre of gravity and the moments of inertia," Newton explained.

"We are not trying to make a Briton like Yurchenko because we can't. But we are trying to get Britons to follow mechanical principles to produce an optimum performance."

John Atkinson and Colin Still, the national women's coaches, were then able to apply these lessons to their teaching. So valuable has this been that there are plans to extend it this year, provided that the Sports Council can underwrite the cost.

Injuries in cup give lesser stars a chance

By Peter Aykroyd

Injuries aggravated by cold weather have opened up the battle for medal positions among leading performers at tonight's 26th Gold Top Championship Cup at the Royal Albert Hall.

Sadly, Andrew Morris, three times the British champion and winner of the cup, which is the longest-running in British gymnastics, for the last four years, has withdrawn because of an injured wrist. Also absent with a thumb injury is Neil Thomas, the national champion on floor, vault and horizontal bar.

The vacant title will now be stalked by Morris's Swansea club colleague, Carl Beynon, who was the runner-up last year, and David Simpson, the British No. 2.

Simpson, as is Thomas, is based at City of Liverpool School of Physical Education, a new centre which has a growing reputation for gymnastics excellence. Under the coaching direction of Brian Storer, the centre produced four of the 12 finalists at the 1986 British championships.

On the women's side, the withdrawal through a neck strain of Karen Hargate of Huddersfield, the national silver medalist, and Karen Kennedy, the national No. 3, should give Lisa Elliott, the British champion, an almost-unimpeded route to the trophy. Miss Elliott, from Spalding, has secured victory on other occasions with her impressive floor exercise which is full of balletic grace.

However, Menna Samuel, the Welsh champion, is also in the field and her overall expertise may well take her close to the title. A further casualty of the event is a member of the British Olympic squad.

The event has been staged annually at its present venue for the last 26 years, making it Britain's longest running gymnastics competition.

TEAMS: MEN: C. Beynon (Swansea), P. Bowles (Liverpool), D. Goss (London), D. Simpson (Liverpool), S. Tan (Huddersfield), R. Wasthouse (Birmingham), WOMEN: L. Elliott (Liverpool), D. Goss (Huddersfield), J. Lomas (Nottingham), L. Morris (Swansea), L. Thomas (Liverpool), J. Prescott (Nottingham), M. Samuel (Edinburgh).

GLIDING

Down to serious business

By a Correspondent

Strong winds and overcast conditions caused the cancellation of the final practice session for the 15 metre and standard classes in the world championships, at Benalla, Victoria yesterday.

Today sees the official opening in the form of ground-level ceremonies with competition due to start on Sunday.

Scores in the practice rounds have revealed a possible equipment advantage for those teams with second-hand recording time cameras (like the British team's Minolitas).

A ratio in the weighing formula used at the previous world championships in Benalla, Italy, has been changed from 0.6 to 0.7: if a pilot's speed round the course is less than 70 per cent of the winner's, he scores 0 for speed and only 250 out of a possible 1,000 for the first man home, for the maximum distance.

This means that fractions of a minute over an average four to five hour task may be worth five or 10 points: at the end of the day or contest — often the difference between world champion and also-ran.

BOXING

Graham aims for perfect 10 to stay on top of his class

By George Ace

Berny J Eastwood, who controls the destiny of Harold Graham, the European middleweight champion, outside the ring was not slow to voice his disappointment after Graham's last fight against Mark Kaylor from London — stating that he merited no more than five out of 10. Eastwood reckoned Graham was "unprofessional", and promised he would leave that performance far behind next time.

Next time is tonight at the King's Hall, Belfast, when Graham meets Charlie Boston, from Trenton, New Jersey, who is rated number one above average boxer, who packs a punch commensurate to his weight and can find the path to Christie's chin is always going to finish on top.

Trained in boxing and Graham since day one — and still does — and who handled his managerial affairs until 1982 when an American Golden Gloves title. A leg injury, however, sidelined Boston for 18 months prior to which he was rated number five in the world.

But against that, Graham would do well to keep reminding himself right up until he enters the ring that American fighters fired with ambition — and that excludes many of those who shared a ring with Frank Bruno invariably present problems.

And no one who has watched the 25-year-old from New Jersey who has spoken to him since his arrival in Belfast last weekend is under any illusion as to why he is here.

"It is a necessary stepping stone in a quest for a world title fight," Boston says not in a brash way but in a quiet, confident tone and with an earnest look.

There are those, and I must confess to being one of them, who do not place a lot of emphasis on the American's dismantling of Errol Christie in eight rounds in London six weeks ago. Any average boxer who packs a punch commensurate to his weight and can find the path to Christie's chin is always going to finish on top.

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BIATHLON

Champion eclipsed by Britons

By Michael Coleman

Even a triple world champion like Valery Medvedev, of the Soviet Union, has been eclipsed by the shooting targets in the World Cup 20km at Antholz, Italy, on Thursday, that he finished 7th, suffering the indignity of being passed by five of the British team, who are pursuing this sport with a tenacity others must marvel at.

Fine shooting by Carl Davis, aged 22, from Luton, in which he missed only one of the 20 targets, gave him a total time of 1 hour 10 minutes 45 seconds and 34th place compared to the 1:02:57 of the winner, Frank Roetsch, of East Germany. The skiing of Davis let him down.

In contrast, Michael Dixon, recently arrived from the Nordic squad, skied fastest of the British for 47th place out of 71 finishers, he being let down by his shooting.

Next World Cup stop for the British is at Ruhpolding, West Germany, followed by the national championships in Bad Zwenberg, West Germany, and then on to Lake Placid and the pre-Olympics in Calgary.

Origination: Williams was to fight Tyrrell Biggs, the 1984 Olympic super-heavyweight champion, in Monaco or Rome on the same date, but Biggs had to withdraw after suffering a wrist injury in a car accident.

CRICKET: ESSEX APPEAR TO HAVE ENTERED THE QUALITY IMPORT TRADE

Page is well read in the art of pace and set to add a chapter of success

From Ivo Tennant, Cape Town

Africa's schools hockey team. He chose cricket as a career, making his debut for Transvaal 'B' in 1981/2. It was not, though, before 1984/5 that he established himself as a genuine fast bowler, taking 41 Currie Cup wickets in nine matches at 15.12 apiece.

The Proteas cricket annual wrote then: "His true test lies in the future when he does not have to glittering a past record from which to draw strength." It was referring also to Rice and Alan Kourie. Last season Page took more wickets than Clarke — 32 — and only three fewer than Radford, and this season, having initially lost his rhythm, has been bowling well without the support of Clarke, who mysteriously decided to remain in Barbados.

Page spent the summer of 1982 in England on a scholarship to Warwickshire and has been coached here by Vincent van der Bij, the former South African and Middlesex bowler, who has helped maintain his enthusiasm. So has the unofficial tutor to South Africa. "My generation has grown up thinking it would never play Test cricket so we have to make do with the breakaway teams which come here," he said.

"We would have reached the stage where we would have been playing the same opponents day in day out, so it has been beneficial to take on teams brought up on different pitches in other countries."

Page would obviously like to play Test cricket and has toyed with the idea of moving to Australia. He is only too aware of how uncertain the future is for young people in South Africa.

Yet he has a good job in Johannesburg, working for a public relations firm for six months of the year and his intention is to play for Essex for several seasons. His place in South Africa's side, spearheading their attack with Garth le Roux, seems secure. He enjoys life, sports and socialising. It will be a surprise if he and Essex do not hit it off.

No county takes more care over its choice of overseas cricketers than Essex. Most of those they take on arrive in England virtually unknown outside their home countries. Alan Border was the exception — and have their reputations by the time they leave. Hugh Page should prove the ideal acquisition.

Page is young, aged 24, will not miss much early career of the pitch, which is ideal in England: a hard hitting late-middle order, left handed batsman, useful for limited over cricket; and is a pleasant person renowned for joviality. All in all, well suited to Essex.

He is inexperienced. Yet he comes to Essex, on a two-year contract, through recommendations from John Lever, who played against him for Natal; Ken McIlwain, that most successful of overseas cricketers; and the captain himself, Graham Gooch.

The reputation of their dressing room and good cricket wickets encouraged Page to join Essex, where he will probably be used in short spells. Alan Border was the exception — and have their reputations by the time they leave. Hugh Page should prove the ideal acquisition.

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TABLE TENNIS

Pean is sticking to plan

By A Correspondent

John Pean, the chairman of the English Table Tennis Association, is to continue with his plan to abolish the England selectors. Pean, father of Carl Pean, the English international, recently became the first chairman in the association's history to have a nomination for a vice-chairmanship rejected, temporarily making his plan impossible.

Now, however, he intends either to represent the original candidate, Bernard Rowley, a Roman Catholic priest, or to find another that the national council will find acceptable. ETTA's constitution says the changes have to be affected by a vice-chairman in charge of selection and coaching.

"I said I was committed to one-man selection and I still am. What has happened is a bit of a disgrace," Pean, who wants all powers of selection to be invested in Donald Parker, England's trainer-coach, said.

Brian Spicer, ETTA's vice-chairman in charge of public relations, commented: "One or two people have been having a go at John Pean since he's been in office and I don't think that's fair. He's already made improvements in the couple of months he's been in charge and I believe he will go on doing so."



Howzat! Hugh Page setting his sights high for his seasons with Essex

George Rae meets the man whose plans could help racing survive next winter's freeze Ready for the all-weather breakthrough

The prospect of an all-weather track in Britain, which has long occupied racing's collective mind, is ready to move a step closer to reality. Last November the Jockey Club and the Horserace Betting Levy Board invited submissions from the 59 racecourses, and any other interested parties, on the provision of an all-weather track, to be received by January 31.

Among them will be one from Kempton Park, one of three London venues controlled by United Racecourses, whose managing director, Tim Neligan, is a confirmed believer in the virtues of an all-weather track.

It is, he contends, an idea whose time has come. "I'm biased, of course," said Neligan, "but I feel the time has never been better for an all-weather track. Five years ago people just didn't want to know but now trainers, and big-name trainers too, are showing plenty of interest."

The plan is to construct, at Kempton, an oval-shaped circuit of 1,880 metres — about 10 furlongs — 23 metres wide, just inside the existing steeplechase course. Flood-lighting, to allow later finishing during the winter, is scheduled but not a priority.

"If approval is granted, and the Jockey Club has indicated it will give an answer by the end of next month, we can be operational by the end of the year," said Neligan.

Concurrent with the laying of the track would be a modernization of spectator amenities, notably a glass-fronted, air-conditioned restaurant facing the course. The total cost of the project is £2 million which United Racecourses would raise privately through the banks.

"However," added Neligan, "a pre-requisite of the scheme is that we are allotted 40 days racing a year, about twice our present quota. Without that the project would not be viable."

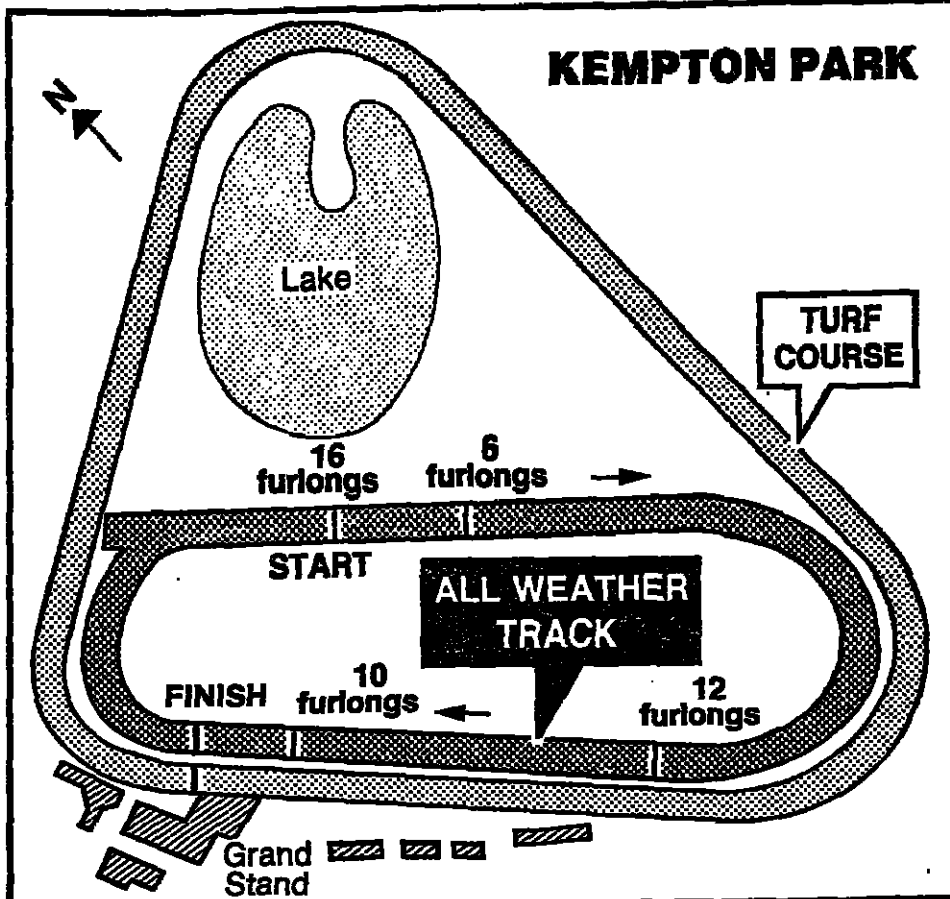
Viability is the cornerstone of Kempton's submission. It is made on behalf of Kempton, not of racing, and Neligan makes no bones about it. "We are not doing this for racing, although there will obviously be benefits for the industry. My board is made up of businessmen who want to see a return on investment."

What may be regarded as rampant commercialism in no way weakens Kempton's case. The profit motive is, more often than not, the guiding hand of progress and the implementation of an all-weather track at Kempton, or elsewhere, would be a step in the right direction for racing. One of the basic tenets of the Jockey Club brief to racecourses is "the minimization of the effect of adverse weather conditions on racing and betting" and Kempton's proposals adhere to that.

Neligan continued: "We would



One man and his vision: Tim Neligan at snowbound Kempton earlier this week; and how the course's all-weather track would look



guarantee racing every Friday during January and February on the all-weather track. Where we have a two-day meeting the Friday programme would be on the all-weather and the Saturday card, which would be the more attractive, on grass.

"The track would also be used during the summer. We will apply for a series of Wednesday evening fixtures before reverting to Fridays as winter comes round again."

An all-weather card would probably consist, during the winter, of a mixture of National Hunt flat races and hurdles. Neligan said: "We would cater for the needs of the horse population at a particular time. During the winter large numbers of horses are unable to run because they are balloted out of National Hunt flat races and novice hurdles. We would provide an outlet for them."

"The aim is to provide fields of between 12 and 16, which should ensure a good betting medium, both on-course and in betting shops. Purists may accuse us of running glorified dog racing but I wouldn't be ashamed of that. Ultimately we are in the entertainment business and if we give people what they want they will come along."

All-weather racing tends to imply

non-stop racing when the freeze sets in. That, in the early stages at least, would be unlikely. A blank week would be broken only by pre-arranged dates, such as Kempton on Fridays, unless other submissions, covering other days, were adopted.

Even in the case of a two-day Kempton fixture, Neligan admits the second day, on grass, would be lost. "We would not tell trainers they would be running their horses on grass and then switch to all-weather at the last minute," he said.

However, despite such reservations, Neligan's optimism is echoed, though more guardedly, by Richard Mackenness, chief executive of the National Trainers' Federation. "We are in favour of any solution which provides an alternative when racing on grass is impossible. Granted a suitable surface and races which suit the needs of horses I have no doubts trainers will support all-weather racing. We believe it has a future," he said.

Therein lies the crucial factor, the composition of the racing surface. Several artificial surfaces are under review by the Jockey Club, and one with an undeniable claim is the amalgam of sand and loose fibres presently in use on one of Ian Balding's gallops.

Balding has no doubts about its effectiveness. "I couldn't be more excited about it," he said. "It's the

best I've used in 20 years. What impresses me most is how little kickback there is."

Kickback is the amount of the surface thrown back by galloping horses into the faces of horses and jockeys following. What may be acceptable in gallops conditions, where fewer horses are grouped together, would be unacceptable in a racing field where more runners are packed together more closely.

Balding continued: "We have put hurdles on the gallop and horses have jumped without slipping. I would have no hesitation in running them in races on this surface."

What has yet to be established thoroughly is the surface's reaction to frost, and the cycle of freezing and thawing. However, the recent cold spell has given some indication of how the surface may behave.

Balding's news is encouraging. "The gallop has ridden perfectly this week despite the very low temperatures," he said. "I believe only deep snow would make it unusable."

Another all-weather gallop under Jockey Club scrutiny, the Al Bahathri at Newmarket, has reportedly survived 13 degrees of frost when grass gallops were frozen.

But one of the drawbacks of the Al Bahathri gallop is, according to Balding, the comparatively high level of kickback. "It would be all right if you're out in front but I think it would be uncomfortable if you're tucked in behind," he said.

However, until the Jockey Club is totally convinced of the merits of a surface in all conditions it is unlikely to sanction its use. Jonathan Weatherly, who is monitoring the situation for the Jockey Club, is non-committal. "We have our inspectors of courses keeping tabs on the various gallops but we will not make any comment before we see how they react to the worst of the weather. We are unlikely to decide before spring at the earliest."

The decision, should it be delayed that long, presents another dilemma for Kempton. Neligan's schedule is based on approval by the end of February with work to start on laying the track by August. The track can be put down in from six to eight weeks but to delay the start beyond August is to run the risk of increasingly unfavourable working weather.

Neligan said: "If we don't do it this year it is questionable whether we would try again in the future. Next year everything will cost that much more and besides, we will have allotted much of our money to different areas this year."

Racecourses given more freedom in use of water jump

By Michael Seely

Racecourses are to be given the option of including water jumps in the layout of their courses from the 1987-88 National Hunt Season onwards. The decision was announced yesterday by the Jockey Club after consultation with the Trainers' Federation and the Jockeys' Association.

"The stewards are confident that the majority of racecourses will retain their water jumps, which add to the spectacle of the National Hunt racing," stated a press release. Recently David McHardy, the clerk of the course at Edinburgh's new jumping track, was given a special dispensation for this season so that the water jump did not have to be included among the fences at Musselburgh.

Commenting on the water jump generally, McHardy added: "I've no objection to the water jump itself, except that it must obviously have limited spectator appeal unless it is sited directly in front of the stands. And this, of course, poses the problem of a dog-leg finish, which in turn causes difficulties with stewards' inquiries and camera patrol films."

Fulke Walwyn, however, the master National Hunt trainer of our era, holds strong views on

the subject. "The water jump is an integral part of our jumping heritage. If you do away with that, why not do away with the open ditch as well. There used to be quite a grave risk of horses dropping their hind legs in deep water, but now that the slope has been graduated they can just scramble out of it."

Walwyn was deprived of the chance of judging whether his impression was correct when Century novice chaser winner, Ten Plus, was in Cheltenham Gold Cup material this season when the weekend's Ascot meeting had to be abandoned. "My only plan now is to get a race into him as soon as possible," he concluded.

Nick Gaselee, who had intended to run Berlin in this afternoon's Victor Chandler Handicap, intends to re-route him to Newbury on February 14 for the Game Spirit Chase. "I don't know why he can't handle the Welsh Oak at Ascot," Gaselee also confirmed that Bolands Cross, his Gold Cup hope, goes to Cheltenham on January 31 for the Holsten Pils Chase.

On the flat racing front, John Dunlop has been appointed to the Pattern Race Committee.

Rainbow Warrior has Gold Cup objective

Rainbow Warrior, one of Ireland's top chasers last season, is back in training and being prepared for the Cheltenham Gold Cup.

He was formerly with Michael Cunningham in Co. Meath but is now in the care of his Devon-based owner Martyn Meade, who has taken out a permit specifically to train Rainbow Warrior for the Gold Cup. Meade has retained top jockey Hywel Davies to ride.

Meade said: "Rainbow Warrior is a good horse and I was particularly interested in preparing him myself for Cheltenham. I have all the facilities I need here and I can sweeten him up with hunting."

Rainbow Warrior, now 10, could return in the Gainsborough on February 7, or the Tote Bookmakers Handicap on the same programme.

Only Dawn Run, Buck House and Bobaline were rated better than Rainbow Warrior in Ireland last season. His only run in England was a 10-length second to Borough Hill Lad in the Gainsborough Chase at Sandown. Meade said: "We later found he had broken a blood vessel so it wasn't his true form. The Gold Cup was to have been his next race but he got a knock on the aircraft coming over and has been with me ever since."

Rainbow Warrior, now 10, could return in the Gainsborough on February 7, or the Tote Bookmakers Handicap on the same programme.

Despite a slight rise in temperatures, there is little prospect of racing resuming before the second half of next week. Monday's meeting at Carlisle was abandoned yesterday and the day's other fixture at Fontwell, where there is 14 inches of snow in the back straight, also seems certain to be called off this morning.

The outlook for Tuesday is no better. Worcester is covered by four inches of snow with four inches of ice underneath.

Sedgefield plan to inspect tomorrow afternoon but the clerk of the course, John Clewley, described the outlook as "not great". "It will have to continue to thaw with no more frost," he said.

Bob Davies, the clerk of the course at Ludlow, where racing is scheduled for Wednesday, said: "We've seen a rapid improvement in the weather but it is forecast. The course is covered with snow and the ground is frozen."

Tomorrow Wigan will use their own undersoil heating system to enable them to play their first game against the Cumbrian second division club Workington Town at St Helens, Blackbrook.

Workington were originally drawn at home, but with several inches of snow on their own pitch they have wisely decided to move the tie, and will reap the benefit in a handsome cheque from the away big crowd at Central Park. Wigan will put on show for the first time Andy Gregory, their £130,000 scrum-half with the Great Britain scrum-half Shaun Edwards moved to stand off half.

Neligan continued: "We will expect to be stretched by their opposition, with Blackbrook and Workington grateful to pick up their share of the gates, with the amateurs having their brief moment of glory."

Elsewhere undersoil heating is again proving beneficial. Maine Road, the Manchester City ground, will have a bumper weekend, with football today between Manchester City and Liverpool, and two rugby league games to follow, Oldham v Featherstone Rovers tomorrow and Warrington v Barrow on Monday night.

Headingley will stage tomorrow's Sheffield Eagles v Bramley second division game, while Bolton Wanderers' ground at Burnden Park will provide hospitality for another second division fixture, Swinton v Huddersfield.

St Helens have joined Warrington and Leeds among the top clubs interested in pursuing Jonathan Davies, the Welsh outside-half, and when he decides to turn professional.

France have named Cyril Pons, the winger, for his first cap in their World Cup match against Britain at Leeds on January 24. The French selectors have made widespread changes from the sides beating Australia last November and December.

Marc Palanques, the hooker, returns from injury, enabling Thierry Bernabe to move to the back row, while Yves Mammie also comes into the scrum. Andre Gaxie has not played for the past three seasons with his club Toulouse.

FRANCE: A Pons, C Pons, R Palanques, Mammie, Gaxie, D Gaxie, Y Mammie, T Bernabe, M Palanques, T Bernabe.

Coe's false start

Sebastian Coe, the Olympic 1,500 metres champion, has had to postpone his first planned race in 1987 because of influenza. He was due to run in the 3,000 m at the national indoor championships at Cosford on January 24.

Ward denied the attraction of the Stuttgart event had been responsible for the cancellation. But he admitted that it would be necessary to look again at which

CRICKET: A TEAM WHO ARE THE APEX OF A VAST, TALENT-SPOTTING STRUCTURE

Tour to test the future of young England cricketers

By Richard Streeton

If previous under-19 tours are any guide, the England Young Cricketers team leaving today for Sri Lanka includes several future Test players.

In recent years the following XI could be picked from those who gained their first international experience at this level: G A Gooch, C W J Athey, C J Tavart, D J DeFreitas, P R Gatting, P A J DeFreitas, P R Downton, V J Marks, N A Foster, G R Dilly and P W J Allott. A certain I T Botham was also selected, but could not be spared elsewhere. The names underline how much England have benefited during the last 12 years since these games were launched in 1970.

West Indies and England led the way; Australia, India and Sri Lanka have followed, and now New Zealand plan youth fixtures for the first time. A world under-19 cup is expected to be part of the Australian bicentennial celebrations in 1988.

These days, invariably, the players are contracted to first-class counties. One of this year's touring party already have first team experience. The Young Cricketers represent the apex of a vast, talent-spotting structure, which starts in some areas with under-11 competitions.

The National Cricket Association, broadly speaking, is the umbrella under which this structure operates. The TCCB underwrite financially one under-19 tour each year for the NCA, who are also helped by the Sports Council and by sponsorship. It cost £60,000 to bring Sri Lanka here last summer, but the benefits to the players remain incalculable.

There are now 51 official county associations for school-boy and youth cricket. Increasingly, the estimated 14,000 local cricket clubs in England are also

involved. The clubs appreciate that long-term they help themselves by running young sides. Everything possible has been done by the NCA to ensure that no genuine cricket talent escapes discovery, even where opportunities are lacking at schools. There are, of course, still aspects of the game which need improvement. For instance there is not yet a close enough liaison between some county clubs and youth organizations to help young players cross the divide to the first-class game. The Palmer report recommended stronger links and these are being implemented.

An unknown factor for the NCA remains the number of boys lost to cricket because athletics, chess and tennis, among many gifted young sportsmen these days, who, in bygone eras, would only have had the chance of cricket in the summer and football in winter.

As the best cricketers pass through their teens, there are representative fixtures organized by three bodies, depending whether the player has left school or not and if they are contracted to a county. The continued separate existence of the English Schools Cricket Association, the NCA Young Cricketers and the National Association of Young Cricketers is under review but all three in the past have made important contributions.

The forthcoming tour is the sixth made by England overseas and the first to Sri Lanka. Three four-day and three one-day international matches are on the itinerary. In England last summer England won the series 1-0 and Sri Lanka won both one-day internationals.

Michael Atherton, is England's tour captain, an opening batsman and steady leg-spin

bowler, whose cricket in 1986 was restricted by a finger injury. Atherton, studying at Cambridge, has a contract with Lancashire, as does Mark Crawley, the Oxford University batsman and Warren Hegg, the first choice wicketkeeper.

Plenty of runs are also expected from Mark Alleyne, who last summer became the youngest Gloucestershire player to make a championship hundred; and Mark Ramprakash, aged 17 in September, of Middlesex. Another Middlesex player, Alistair Fraser, will probably share the opening attack with Martin Bicknell, whose career with Surrey began so promisingly last summer. Martin Speight, who played for Sussex when Ian Gould was injured, will be challenging Hegg as wicketkeeper. Speight, a classy batsman, a promising Essex batsman, are both at Durham University, which has had so many good cricketers in recent years.

Tim Lamb, the Middlesex secretary, is the team's manager, assisted by Graham Saville, the NCA national coach for the eastern region.

ENGLAND YOUNG CRICKETERS: M A Atherton (Lancashire, captain), M W Alleyne (Gloucestershire), M P Bicknell (Surrey), S J E Brown (Northamptonshire), M A Crawley (Lancashire), A G J Fraser (Middlesex), M R Newton (Hampshire), M R Ramprakash (Middlesex), D C Smith (Gloucestershire), M P Speight (Sussex), I T Botham (Lancashire), H J J Tump (Somerset), T R Ward (Kent), M Wicket (Kent), M Lamb, Assistant manager, G Saville.

Future dates: Jan 21-22 v Schools President's XI at Colombo; Jan 24-26 v Sri Lanka; Jan 28-30 v Sri Lanka; Feb 1-3 v Sri Lanka; Feb 4-6 v Sri Lanka; Feb 7-9 v Sri Lanka; Feb 10-12 v Sri Lanka; Feb 13-15 v Sri Lanka; Feb 16-18 v Sri Lanka; Feb 19-21 v Sri Lanka; Feb 22-24 v Sri Lanka; Feb 25-27 v Sri Lanka; Feb 28-30 v Sri Lanka; Mar 1-3 v Sri Lanka; Mar 4-6 v Sri Lanka; Mar 7-9 v Sri Lanka; Mar 10-12 v Sri Lanka; Mar 13-15 v Sri Lanka; Mar 16-18 v Sri Lanka; Mar 19-21 v Sri Lanka; Mar 22-24 v Sri Lanka; Mar 25-27 v Sri Lanka; Mar 28-30 v Sri Lanka; Mar 31-Apr 2 v Sri Lanka; Apr 3-5 v Sri Lanka; Apr 6-8 v Sri Lanka; Apr 9-11 v Sri Lanka; Apr 12-14 v Sri Lanka; Apr 15-17 v Sri Lanka; Apr 18-20 v Sri Lanka; Apr 21-23 v Sri Lanka; Apr 24-26 v Sri Lanka; Apr 27-29 v Sri Lanka; Apr 30-May 2 v Sri Lanka; May 3-5 v Sri Lanka; May 6-8 v Sri Lanka; May 9-11 v Sri Lanka; May 12-14 v Sri Lanka; May 15-17 v Sri Lanka; May 18-20 v Sri Lanka; May 21-23 v Sri Lanka; May 24-26 v Sri Lanka; May 27-29 v Sri Lanka; 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Below Circles 10:30 Soap 10:50 Film:
Out of the Blue 12:30am Closedown.

Stage fright, not the snow, may freeze Coventry

By Clive White

Unlike Lady Godiva — and in spite of the weather — under-exposure could be the handicap facing Coventry City when they appear before the gaze of millions at Highbury tomorrow. It will be their first live appearance on television and John Sillett, their coach, expressed a real fear yesterday that they may freeze in front of the cameras.

"I shall tell my players to play as though there are no cameras there and not try to be clever, but to rely on the basic principles which have served us so well this season," Sillett said. "But you can never tell what will happen in the minds of players."

Stage fright notwithstanding, Sillett expects his team, one of the season's most delightful surprises, to give Arsenal "as good a game as they have had all season." Coventry, with Liverpool and Nottingham Forest, are among the few sides to have beaten Arsenal this season.

Sillett, nevertheless, has great respect for the Londoners but believes that their record of 20 games without defeat is getting a bit long in the tooth. "It's not as though it were just six games old. It's had a good run and now it's there to be shot down."

Sillett believes that weariness and inexperience will eventually be the undoing of Arsenal. That is why he prefers Everton. "Arsenal's workrate and discipline is tremendous. But when the going gets tough Arsenal keep chasing, whereas Everton let the ball do the work. Legs can get tired but not the ball. They've also got one or two players lacking in experience. We have played everyone this season and no-one has put under as much pressure as Everton. They played some superb football against us."

Coventry have played some attractive football themselves this season and have been rewarded with an unusually high placing in the league. They will have been further encouraged for tomorrow's by the possibility that McGrath, their aggressive force in midfield, may return after entering hospital before Christmas for an exploratory operation on his knee which revealed nothing untoward.

But his selection will depend on the condition of the pitch, as will that of other players. A definite spectator will be Martin Lane, a left back whom they signed from Chester on Tuesday. Lane joined his team-mates yesterday after being snowed in up north.

Liverpool, nine points behind Arsenal, are in danger of slipping further behind at Maine Road, where Manchester City may be inspired by the return of Peter Barnes, after an absence of eight years. The return of Kenny Dalglish may be an even greater inspiration to a Liverpool side seriously lacking in goals. They have scored just three in their last six games. As usual, Dalglish, who has appeared in only two of Liverpool's last 16 games, will not decide upon his line-up until this morning. It seems that Liverpool cannot do without him and his presence now is paramount to their hopes of retaining the championship.

City are expecting a big crowd which will go some way towards repaying the cost of their undersoil heating.



Snow team: Arsenal's new undersoil heating cleared the pitch, while the youth team cleared the terraces

Gatting rubs shoulders with the best of England's past

From John Woodcock, Cricket Correspondent, Sydney

Sydney no longer shares with London the distinction of having one of the world's two most elegant cricket grounds. It has been exchanged for a stadium. But that took nothing away from Australia's victory there on Thursday, which ended the most unsuccessful run (14 Tests without a win) in the history of cricket.

Borner's side must have felt as Freddie Brown's did at Melbourne on the last day of February 1951, when they beat Australia after England had lost 11 and drawn three of their previous 14 Tests against Australia. I can sense the relief of it now as Compton made the winning hit. What a night it was!

So, whereas I deplore the mobbing of cricketers that goes on these days when they take a vital wicket and the ostentation with which batsmen reach their 100s and give a kind of clenched salute to their dressing room, I know how they feel. So, inasmuch as, does Richie Benaud, who had been playing for seven years and 36 Test matches before he knew what it was like to win a series against England.

Of the Australian side that broke free on Thursday, several are not only more experienced players than they were a couple of months ago, they are better ones too. Jones, Waugh, Marsh, Sleep and Reid have all come on, the first two significantly, and Taylor has emerged. Australia's most urgent need now is for fast bowlers, and even that would be less important if the pitches

on which Test matches are played were all made by the Sydney curator. He does a service to cricket by giving the spinners a chance.

Although England had just lost a Test match, Gatting, not only because England had won the Ashes, he could look back on a job well done. There had been occasions when not everyone agreed with his tactics, most especially, perhaps, in Perth, where, on balance, he seemed more concerned with retaining the lead England had gained in Brisbane than with extending it. He also took occasional advantage of the ridiculously low minimum number of overs now required in a day's play; but in that he was no different from most other captains.

Leading a side to Australia has always been a taxing assignment. If anything it gets harder each time, owing to the greater intensity of the programme and the growing blaze of publicity. Already England's players are in Brisbane, preparing to take the field at 10 o'clock this morning for a fierce all-action one-day battle against the West Indians. You only need to see how drained they will be by this evening to know what such a game takes out of them. One false move by the captain, one lapse of concentration amid the heat and dust and frenzy, and a game can be gone beyond recall.

Gatting's strength is his resilience. He is not over bothered about refinement. I wish sometimes that he were

But at this stage of the tour, still with a hard, hyped-up month to come, he has done us very well. Of all the other England captains to Australia, only Dexter and MacLaren in this century have had as good a series with the bat as Gatting.

Broad is having a wonderfully good tour and Small has proved an excellent acquisition. If I pick out these two, it is only because they have exceeded expectations. DeFreitas, while still raw, has confirmed his flair for the game, and Athey has fulfilled a useful function. Richards, too, justified his captain's support for him.

Of the old hand, Gower can boast a genuine average of 57 in the Test matches, something we all dream of doing against Australia in Australia. He was tempted not to make the tour, and we should have been much the poorer had he not. Botham contributed substantially to two Test victories and Lamb's influence is not reflected in his disappointing batting figures. Not since 1954-55 have I felt the same glow of pleasure at seeing a series in Australia won, and when, on Thursday, England lost, they did so with honour.

Although, to those of my generation, the serious business of the tour is now over, there is still a lot of money to be won, much strenuous competition to come and many appeals to be answered by the umpires. With so much to contend with, most of all in the way of their every every

decision being subjected to public scrutiny on the score-board video (a practice which should be dropped and might best be ended by the umpires refusing to accept it) and the umpires take no less of a mental battering these days than batsmen do against short-pitched bowling in West Indies.

Very few batsmen walk anymore and there have been times when the appealing has been such as to support the view that only the batsman and the wicketkeeper (so long as it is not Zoehrer) should be allowed to appeal. "The way the Australians were jumping up and down out there today reminded me of India," said Gatting after Thursday's match. In Zoehrer, Australia have a wicketkeeper whose behaviour has, I like to think, become counter-productive. But England are not averse to answering back.

There are very few umpires, here or anywhere else, and there never have been, with the courage to take the captain of the fielding side to one side and read him the Riot Act. This is a pity. But in general terms, the series was no better umpired and no worse than most. There were times when the batsmen felt they were involved in a game of chance, especially in the last Test; but there is nothing new in that, and as Australia strove might, main and windpipe to win, Messrs Randall and McConnell would have passed every imaginable test of integrity.

No room for new deal in cup rules

By Paul Martin

Players from 16 nations taking part in this year's inaugural World Rugby Cup will, under present arrangements, be denied compensation for lost earnings or hardship — even though provision for such payments on all overseas tours may by then already have been authorized by the International Board.

A confidential tournament agreement drawn up by the board and assented to by the unions involved, sets the player's allowance at £15 a day, the present rate for overseas visits. It makes no provision for changing the agreement if the board approves in March proposals to amend the amateur rules, giving players the right to be paid in line with their lost income during tours lasting over three weeks.

Players, already increasingly outspoken over their grievances, especially on lack of provision for their financial problems, are likely to find it hard to understand how the board could pass a new rule giving them a right to compensation for lost income, and then refuse to apply it to the World Cup.

France would go ahead and pay

France yesterday declared that if any situation arose, it would insist on paying its players the compensation anyway. "We have been pressing hard for these broken time payments," said Marcel Martin, France's board delegate, "and once the board has approved them in general, we would fight for the rule to apply at the World Cup as well. Failing that, we would go ahead and pay our players the amounts, no matter what others decide."

It is, of course, far from certain that the tour pay proposals themselves will receive the necessary support from six of the eight board members: New Zealand, Scotland and England have each taken public positions opposed to the move. Leading officials consider that in the whirlwinds and dealings surrounding next March's board meeting, the supporters of the tour pay move may have to agree to leave the old allowance system in place for the World Cup — as a sweetener to those who will find it hard to swallow the broken time pay bill.

The Welsh last week officially approved the tour pay proposals. Their president, Desmond Barnett, said his union would press for the World Cup agreement to be changed, in line with any new tour pay rule. But he disagreed with the French intention to make the payment anyway and even Australia, main movers of the tour pay proposals, will not insist upon it.

Strong criticism from Irish

Ireland's delegate, Harry McKibbin, strongly criticized the French position. In the Irish assessment, world rugby has "lost integrity," and needs new rules that are rigorously enforced. McKibbin argued that allowing countries to pay their players at the World Cup while others did not would lead to "chaos and disintegration."

Martin, however, maintained that France would have the right simply to apply a by then accepted new principle, according with the tournament agreement preamble (which may not have the same force as the agreement itself), which says the event should be run in accordance with regulations on amateurism that "apply at the time the tournament takes place".

The confidential document makes the World Cup Company responsible for the daily allowance payments, and for travel to and from Australia, while internal travel, hotels and incidental expenses will be paid for by the host union, either New Zealand or Australia.

The agreement "disapproves" of tour funds, a mechanism through which touring teams are wont to assemble the proceeds of visits to boxes, appearances at company functions, the sale of assorted memorabilia, and "donations" from various services rendered. It is a practice which, though outlawed, has become increasingly blatant of late. It also warns players and officials in bold print that "it is an offence to sell or attempt to sell complimentary tickets."

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Dickson restores NZ Zealand faith

From Barry Pickthall, Fremantle

Chris Dickson and his crew came back from obscurity yesterday in a thrilling 130-knot duel to take a first race off Dennis Conner's Stars and Stripes and keep New Zealand hopes alive in the best of seven finals to select the America's Cup challenger.

The two crews slugged it out toe to toe for almost three and a half hours and at the finish, five muscle-bound winch grinders on each boat lay exhausted over their pedestals.

The result, a 38 second win for KZ7 answered three million prayers back home, the good luck shouts from several thousand visiting New Zealanders who took up vigil outside the Kiwi dock, and a stream of supporting messages that grew from 20,000 to 200,000 as the day progressed.

"The support has been crazy, but to leave the dock this morning with 4-5000 supporters cheering for us must have been worth 1/10th of a knot," Dickson enthused last night.

Even Conner, who was denied a third straight win in this series partly through a faulty halyard shackle that let the spinnaker fly shortly after Stars & Stripes had rounded the first windward mark ahead, was not dispirited by the outcome. "I think today exemplifies what this sport is all about. It was a tremendous race and I was thrilled to be a part of it, even though we didn't win."

Dickson was credited with a six second advantage as the two crossed the start line, but in reality Stars & Stripes, moving faster and freer to the wind, had the edge and within

Woods set for Rangers debut

By Hugh Taylor

Rangers are likely to have an added attraction for the crowd of 35,000 who will turn out at Ibrox today in the expectation of seeing the club become league leaders by beating Hamilton Academicals.

Forced to change their formation for the first time in five matches, Rangers include Neil Woods, the centre forward signed from Doncaster Rovers, in their squad and yet another Englishman seems certain to make his bow before an Ibrox crowd.

Although the powerful attacker was thought to be a player for the future, he made such an impression in a friendly with Arbroath that the belief behind the Ibrox scenes is that he has a talent to become a favourite of the supporters immediately.

Woods, whose transfer cost £100,000 and the exchange of two young Rangers players, Miller and Beattie, scored three goals at Arbroath.

Rangers will be without Souzess, the player-manager who is absent due to a one match suspension, and there is a club ban on McMillin. Therefore, as well as Woods, Dawson and West return. Cooper will have a fitness test today to find out if he has fully recovered from an ankle knock.

Rangers have not been the premier division champions since 1978 and, indeed, have seldom led the premier division since then. But they have been playing with such confidence and finesse with the defence apparently impenetrable, that it is impossible to visualise Hamilton finding the form to cause what would be the surprise of the season and halting their opponent's relentless march to the top.

Rangers, however, will be warned before the kick-off of their only premier division match to be played this afternoon, and Hamilton, despite their position at the bottom of the table are a plucky, sturdy side who are not short of pride and Walter Smith, their assistant manager said: "We can take nothing for granted we have to go out and win."

SPORT IN BRIEF

Dokes in trouble

Las Vegas (AFP) — Michael Dokes, the former World Boxing Association heavyweight champion, admitted possessing marijuana and dealing in cocaine when he appeared before a county judge here on Thursday. Police raided the boxer's Las Vegas home in October and found quantities of marijuana and cocaine.

The case will be heard on February 26, and Dokes faces a maximum penalty of six years in prison and a fine of \$5,000 (about £3,300).

Adams moves

Paris (Reuters) — The British judo competitor, Neil Adams, a silver medal winner at the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics, is to coach the Racing Club de France. Adams, reported to have differed with the British Judo Association.

Zapata cited

New York (AFP) — Hilario Zapata, of Panama, the World Boxing Association flyweight champion, has been voted WBA boxer of the year for 1986. The WBA chose as their bout of the year the middle-

Hempall waits

Simeon Hempall, of Leeds, the British junior cyclo-cross champion, has been put on stand-by for the world championships in Czechoslovakia on January 25. Hempall's place in the British junior squad depends on the fitness of Steve Noble, who injured his shoulder during the inter-area team championship in Swansea last weekend.

Pyatt has to wait

Chris Pyatt, the European light-middleweight champion from Leicester who was voted best young boxer of 1986, will have to wait another three months before he receives his award.